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GERMAN PACIFIC RAIDER SIGHTED WITH PRIZE SHIPS

PRINCE KONOYE'S BURDEN

Announcing what he called "my last service to the State," Prince Konoze, Premier of Japan, made a remarkable statement on the Sino-Japanese war to the Budget Committee of the Lower House yesterday in Tokyo.

"Although the Sino-Japanese conflict has entered its fifth year," said the Premier, "there is little prospect of a settlement. The fighting services are not responsible."

"It is nobody's responsibility but mine."

"I feel unpardonable before the Throne and the entire nation that already millions of Yen have been spent and thousands of soldiers sacrificed. I am determined to exert myself to the utmost in overcoming this situation as my last service to the State."—Reuter.

NEW ANTONESCU CABINET

General Antonescu, the Rumanian Premier, yesterday formed a new military Cabinet, says a telegram from Bucharest.

All portfolios except those of Justice, Labour and Propaganda are entrusted to generals.

No member of the Iron Guard or representative of the King Carol regime is included in the new Government.

It is stated that the task of the new Ministry will be to "restore order in the country and repair the wrongs done by different regimes during the last few years."—Reuter.

HON. MR. N. L. SMITH IN CHUNGKING

The Hon. Mr. N. L. Smith, the Colonial Secretary of the Hong Kong Government, arrived in Chungking from Hong Kong by plane yesterday morning on a visit. He was entertained at lunch by Dr. Wang Chung-hui, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and at dinner by Mr. Chiang Kai-shek, Minister of Communications.—Central News.

NAZI BOMBER DOWNED IN EAST ANGLIA

A German bomber which crossed the East Coast yesterday afternoon was shot down after it had dropped bombs which killed several persons, according to an Air Ministry communique.

Earlier in the day a German bomber had dropped bombs on a north-east coast town, injuring a few persons.—Reuter.

London's Week Without Air Raid

No bombs were dropped in Britain on Sunday night and London had a week free from enemy raids.

The Air Ministry states there was slight enemy air activity yesterday when single raiders crossed the East Anglian coast.

Volunteer firemen saved the Law Courts in London from total destruction by fire, it was revealed yesterday.

By their efforts the main structure of the Courts was prevented from being set alight by a blaze at the other end of the building, and the fire was under control 90 minutes from the start.

The firemen worked while bombs were still dropping.—Reuter.

THAILAND ATTACK

Fighting is going on with unabated fury, reveals a Thai Supreme Command communique regarding Sunday's military operations on all fronts.

The communique reports that Sipsophon is invested and the bombardment is continuing. In the extreme North Thai forces have occupied territory in

American Vessel's Report From Marianne Islands

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE PRESENCE OF AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF GERMAN RAIDERS IN THE PACIFIC WAS REVEALED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO ONE OF THESE ARMED MERCHANTMEN HAS BEEN SIGHTED AT SEA, TOGETHER WITH AN UNSTATED NUMBER OF PRIZE CRAFT.

Dramatic news of the presence of the raider was contained in a reliable message intercepted in Manila from the American steamer "Oscar Gorthon" and quoted by Reuter this morning.

The "Oscar Gorthon," steaming in the vicinity of the Marianne group of islands (former German possessions now under Japanese mandate), saw one of the raiders at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon (ship's time).

Actual position of the raider

at the time was latitude North 18.7 longitude 146.76—about 1,500 miles due east of the Philippines.

The message from the ship was brief, stating: "At 1300 hours ship's time in latitude north 18.7 longitude 146.76 passed raider with guns and painted black, with prizes."

Possibly The "Narvik"

Only clue in the American vessel's message to the identity of the raider is that she was painted black.

This suggests the possibility that she is the "Narvik," a vessel of 10,000 tons which in December (Continued on Page 16)

ARMISTICE ON THAI BORDER FROM TO-DAY

A Vichy message received in New York last night says it was officially announced that an armistice between Thailand and Indo-China had been arranged through Japanese arbitration.

The armistice, it was added, became effective at 10 o'clock this morning.—Reuter.

DEATH OF COUNT CSAKY

Count Csaky, Foreign Minister of Hungary since 1938, died in Budapest yesterday after an illness of several weeks.—Reuter.

Japan's 'Secret' Weapon

JAPAN NEED NOT SPEND AS MUCH AS THE UNITED STATES ON HER NAVAL BUILDING PROGRAMME BECAUSE THE JAPANESE NAVY MEANS TO MEET THE MAMMOTH AMERICAN NAVAL BUILDING BY CONSTRUCTING A UNIQUE CATEGORY OF ARMS WITH A CONTRIVANCE ORIGINALLY EVOLVED BY ITSELF, DECLARED ADMIRAL KOSHIRO OIKAWA, JAPAN'S NAVY MINISTER, BEFORE THE BUDGET COMMITTEE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES YESTERDAY.

"Nothing will be left undone in preparing to meet the worst eventuality," said the Navy Minister.

While declining to give details, Admiral Oikawa assured an interpolator that the Japanese Navy could meet the requirements of every possible contingency in connection with the defence of not only Japan but the sphere of common prosperity of Greater East Asia.—Reuter.

the Luangprabang region.—Reuter.

***Latest reports indicate that an armistice was to become effective at 10 a.m. to-day.

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STILL COURTING FREE CHINA

Mr. Matsuoka On Japanese Policy In China

Ready To Parley With Generalissimo

REPLYING TO A question on Sunday afternoon in a session of the Budget Committee meeting, Mr. Y. Matsuoka, Japanese Foreign Minister, said that the Japanese Government had vainly tried to induce Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to reconsider his attitude and join Nanking.

Now that Japan has formally recognised the Nanking Government, however, Japan would whole-heartedly support Nanking and at the same time continue exhorting Chiang Kai-shek to join Nanking, the ultimate object being a full settlement of the Sino-Japanese conflict.

Regarding the retrocession of Japanese concessions in China, the Foreign Minister stated that although the exact time cannot be told it will be done as soon as possible and at the same time foreign powers will be exhorted to act likewise.

The Foreign Minister said that as a result of negotiations conducted since last year, an economic understanding has been reached between Japan and the Dutch East Indies nearly satisfying Japan's needs and the rest are being taken up by the Japanese envoy, Mr. Yoshizawa.

Admiral Nomura's Mission

Queried about the intentions of sending Admiral Nomura to the United States, Mr. Matsuoka said that the main purpose was to exchange frank views with Government circles and leaders in America.

Regarding Siberian railway facilities extended by the Soviet Union, the Foreign Minister stated that satisfactory facilities much greater than those of last year were now being extended by the Soviet Union and a Japan-Manchukuo joint negotiation was now going on with the Soviet in this respect.—Reuter.

JOURNALISTS LEAVE CHUNGKING

The Burma journalists mission returned to Rangoon yesterday after a three-week tour of Chungking and other Chinese cities. They journeyed over the Burma-Yunnan road by a bus provided by the Chinese Highways Commission.—Reuter.

FORMALITY OMITTED

THE USUAL FORMALITIES FOR THE PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO THE PRESIDENT WILL BE OMITTED IN THE CASE OF LORD HALIFAX, THE NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON.

Stating this to the press yesterday President Roosevelt's secretary, Mr. Stephen Early, said the White House and State Department presumed their presentation had taken place when President Roosevelt met Lord Halifax.—Reuter.

ITALIAN MORALE HITS A NEW LOW LEVEL

PEOPLE ARRIVING in Belgrade from Trieste yesterday reported that the capture of Tobruk has caused grave depression among the population who believed the British offensive had been held up.

Fascist circles are unable to explain this new reverse which has undermined confidence in official propaganda, especially in regard to the prospects of Italian success in Albania.

SMALL FIRE IN KENNEDY TOWN

A small fire occurred in the early hours of yesterday morning at a private house in No. 8 North Street, Kennedy Town, when the front verandah was involved. The fire was caused by cigarette end being thrown inadvertently into a pile of waste paper. The fire was quickly extinguished.

The public have little faith that the change of command there will be any more successful than the previous reshuffle.

Well-informed sources, indeed, openly admit that the only hope in Africa and Albania is German assistance, which they fear will make Italy completely dependent on the Reich.

This bitter pill has discouraged even the most ardent party men who see no future for Italian Fascism.

A feeling of virtual occupation is enhanced by the increasing influx of Nazi officials and spies controlling the censorship and penetrating the administration.

Serious Blow

The German view of the military position in Italy is not far removed from that prevailing in Fascist circles. A Nazi military expert told a traveller from Vienna that the British had dealt Italy a most serious blow in Africa because the Italians had lost 100,000 soldiers specially trained in desert warfare.

Italian troops were no longer numerically adequate to oppose the British successfully, and the technical question of reinforcement was extremely difficult.

He added that the whole of Cyrenaica was expected to fall into British hands.

It was hoped that German action in the Mediterranean "would begin in time to save Tripolitania" but the expert was unwilling to indicate the character of this action.

He expected that East Africa would also be lost by the Italians.—Reuter.

BRITISH PURCHASE OF SHIPS

The British s.s. "Kokstoria" arrived in New York yesterday with fifteen British merchant marine officers on board to man ships purchased in the United States by Great Britain.—Reuter.

WILLKIE MAY VISIT DE VALERA

Mr. Eamonn de Valera, the Eire Premier, when told in Dublin yesterday that Mr. Wendell Willkie had expressed a desire to visit him, said "I would be very pleased to see him."

It is understood in Dublin that Mr. Willkie may go to Eire next week.—Reuter.

READY FOR INVASION NOW

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Lord Halifax, new British Ambassador in Washington, declared yesterday that British military leaders knowing the defence situation best "would be glad" to see the Germans attempt an invasion now.

In his first full-dress press conference after his arrival Lord Halifax said he could imagine Hitler's advisers counselling both for and against an invasion attempt.

"Trying to look at it from Hitler's point of view, as I do, I can imagine his experts advising that invasion will be difficult unless he has command of the air, which he hasn't got."

"I can also imagine their telling him the difficulty of not trying, in view of the blockade and unrest in German-occupied areas, which requires an early end of the war."

"If he does try we are confident we will give him a good reception. The British people certainly are not down-hearted."

Asked to define British war aims, Lord Halifax said: "Our first aim is to win the war and then to reconstruct the world in such fashion that another such war will not recur."

Lord Halifax conceded that American aid was "vital" for Britain.—International News Service.

INDIAN ARMY'S MECHANISATION

The rapid expansion of the mechanisation of the Indian Army has resulted in a huge increased number of Indian artificers training at the Indian Army Ordnance Corps training centre at Jubbulpore.

In April, 1939, the number of men under training was 700, while to-day the total of all ranks at the centre is nearly 6,500.

Recruits learn various trades from start to finish taking an average of two years to learn the course which is conducted under the supervision of expert British and Indian technical staff. As a result of the increased intake the annual output of trained men totals some 4,000.—Reuter.

FIVE ITALIAN FIGHTER 'PLANES DESTROYED

FIVE ITALIAN fighter aircraft were shot down on Sunday by British fighters which maintained patrols throughout the day, according to an R.A.F. Middle East communique issued in Cairo.

Three Fiat biplane fighters were shot down near Mechile (south of Derna) and two Fiat monoplanes attacking British troops near Derna were shot down in flames, although protected by a number of other fighters.

On a landing ground near Mechile one Savoia bomber was destroyed on the ground.

A raid was carried out by British bombers on Sunday on the aerodrome at Barce (Libya). Bombs fell near hangars and dispersed aircraft. Direct hits were also registered on adjacent buildings. A number of aircraft on the ground were damaged.

An attack was also made on the landing ground at Derna. One British aircraft is missing. In Italian East Africa, continued support was given the army in the advance into Eritrea.

Attack On Convoy

Bombs were dropped near a bridge at Tellna and motor transport was machine-gunned at Barentu by aircraft of a Rhodesian squadron.

Aircraft of the same squadron attacked a motor transport convoy near Umm Hagar and registered direct hits.

A landing ground in the Tellna area was also bombed.—Reuter.

GENERAL WAVELL IN ATHENS

A REPORT FROM ISTANBUL THAT GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD WAVELL RECENTLY VISITED ATHENS WAS CONFIRMED IN AUTHORITY CIRCLES IN LONDON LAST NIGHT.

It is stated the visit was "for the purpose of conferring on certain aspects of the aid which Great Britain has been giving and is continuing to give Greece in her resistance to Italian aggression." —Reuter.

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NOISE OF BATTLE STILL RUMBLES IN CYRENAICA

Moving On With Unbroken Momentum

(By Reuter's Correspondent At Tobruk)

IN THE LIGHT OF THE SETTING SUN, I CAN HEAR THE DISTANT RUMBLE OF GUNS FAINTLY OVER THE DESERT. EARLIER YESTERDAY IT WAS A LITTLE LOUDER AND A LITTLE NEARER.

The battle moves on with unbroken regularity. While British planes continue constant patrols over enemy territory the Italian air force, which has been almost completely absent since the fall of Bardia, remains on the ground.

A captured Italian pilot told me to-day that long rows of machines on aerodromes to the rear had been put out of action by British bombers.

Tobruk itself suffered severely under the bombardment by the Navy and R.A.F. From the minaret of the mosque, which almost miraculously escaped damage, I had a panoramic view of the town.

Hardly a building is unscathed. The barracks, naval headquarters, the radio station and fortifications all bore witness to the concentrated fury of the British attack.

Like An Earthquake

Tolling up the hill from the harbour towards Italian gun positions, I had an impression that

thousands of tons of concrete had been crumbled up by a mighty earthquake.

One of four naval guns—made at Pilsen in 1917—had received a direct hit.

In the centre of the fort was a huge crater caused by a 1,000-lb bomb. The place reeked of cordite and smouldering timber.

While the work of tidying up the town goes on Italian prisoners continue to dribble in from the western sector of the defences.

They had been lurking for days in dried up river beds and caves, bewildered by the swift march of events.

Mystery still surrounds the fate of General Berganzoli, who was at the time reported to have escaped from Bardia at the last minute in a rowing boat.—Reuter.

GARDENER ROBBED

Three men, armed with knives, held up a gardener last night near Po Kong Village, Kowloon City, and robbed him of \$30 and a wrist-watch.

R.A.F. BOMB TARGETS IN HANOVER

Two large fires and several small fires were started when a small force of R.A.F. bombers successfully attacked yesterday. None of our aircraft are missing.—Reuter.

CONGRESS LEADER MISSING

Subhas Chandra Bose, well-known Congress Leftist leader, is missing; nothing having been heard of him since Sunday.

On that day he left his bedroom, where he had been confined through ill health since his release from detention on December 5.

His relatives are anxious. Mr. Bose was due to appear on Monday before the court in connection with a seven-month old case against him.

When he failed to appear the court issued a warrant.—Reuter.

ODDS AGAINST HITLER IN ANY INVASION PLANS

THE LEADING ARTICLES in yesterday's London press were mainly concentrated on two topics, the possibility of an early German assault on Britain, and Anglo-American relations.

The Liberal "News Chronicle" points out that the German incursion into the Mediterranean is more than a sideshow.

To avoid losing the war Hitler must "beat down the resistance of this country across the Channel and do it soon."

The Labour "Daily Herald" codifies the factors inspiring confidence in Britain's ability to meet "the greatest test which civilised humanity has ever suffered."

"The Times," observing that speculation on the nature of a possible assault is unprofitable, states: "The coolest and most sober estimate of the enemy's chances points to the odds being against him."

The paper concludes: "The evil to which we are opposed is powerful and may contain potentialities for violence hitherto unrevealed but it can be faced and beaten and it will be."

Shortening War

Under the title "Shortening the War" the "Daily Telegraph" publishes a long leader emphasising the desirability of speeding up American aid to Britain and saying:

"The American people have it in their power to shorten the war and there is no doubt of the course they will take."

The "Daily Mail" concentrates attention on plans for increasing output of British factories, saying "Speed up the expansion of industry this year."—Reuter.

FORGER'S PLANT RAIDED

A RAID ON A FORGER'S PLANT WAS CARRIED OUT BY THE POLICE YESTERDAY IN SHAKUWAN.

Two youths, aged 21 years, were arrested in the hut, in which were found instruments for forging banknotes.

The police found ink, rollers, paper, five copper plates for forging \$1 banknotes of the Hong Kong Government, and 10 copper plates for forging Chinese Government banknotes.

S. AFRICAN AIR FORCE EXPANSION

THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE IS IMMEDIATELY TO UNDERGO CONSIDERABLE EXPANSION, ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN PRETORIA YESTERDAY.

Several thousand pilots will be required.

The conditions of service of air pupils have been broadened in the light of recent experience and it is anticipated that, under the new conditions, the immediate requirements will quickly be recruited.—Reuter.

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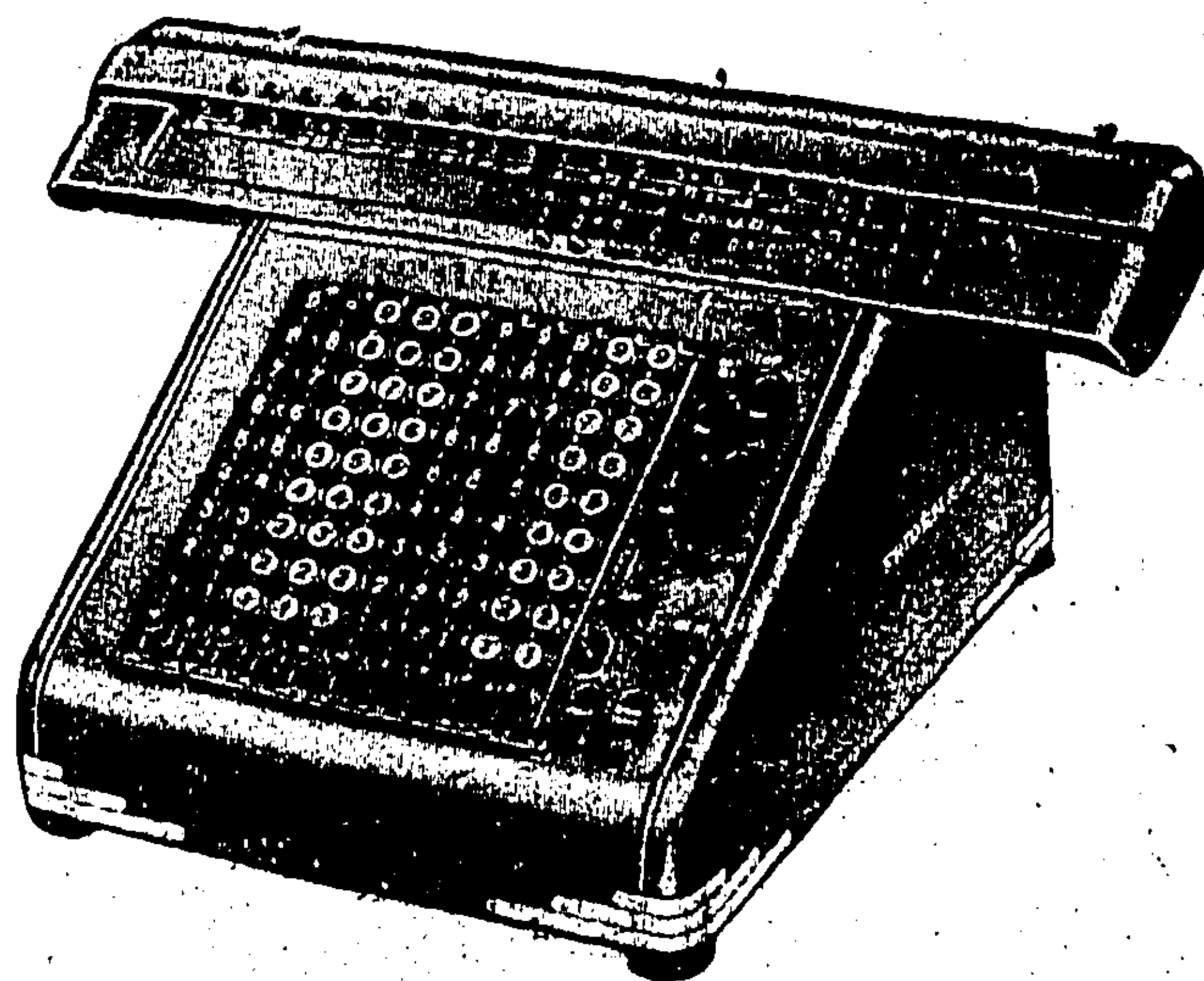
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WENDELL WILLKIE IN LONDON

Mr. Wendell Willkie's first day in London was crowded with activity. An hour's talk with the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden, was followed by luncheon with Mr. Churchill, to whom Mr. Willkie delivered a personal message from President Roosevelt.

Later Mr. Willkie saw the Labour Minister, Mr. Ernest Bevin. After receiving the press at the beginning of the morning he made a quick tour of the devastated area around St. Paul's Cathedral and through the ruins of Guildhall.

"I have met nobody down-hearted so far," Mr. Willkie said, "and don't expect to. You people must survive."

He indicated that he would visit industrial centres in Britain and said: "If some of your methods are better than ours then I will try my best to introduce them into our industries, and if there are some ways in which we are better than you then I am sure you will incorporate them into your factories."

Mr. Willkie stated he intended to visit Eire and call on Mr. de Valera. — Reuter.

GERMANY MUST NOT RETURN

"The return of Germany to the African continent would mean the end of the independence and security of all African states," declared the Belgian Minister for Colonies, M. de Vleeschauwer, at Capetown yesterday.

He arrived in Capetown from Belgian Congo on Sunday and will leave for the north again on Thursday.

During his brief stay he will have talks with General Smuts on questions affecting the mutual interests of South Africa and Belgian Congo, including trade relations. — Reuter.

RECONSTRUCTION AFTER THE WAR

The need to concentrate on winning the war should not stand in the way of peaceful preparation to meet new conditions that will come with peace, said Sir Ramswamy Mundalier, Commerce Member of the Government of India, opening the second Labour Conference at New Delhi yesterday.

He said that when the war was over tremendous problems of reconstruction were bound to arise and it would be wise to seek a solution even now instead of accumulating until peace was restored. — Reuter.

PRINCESSES VISIT AIR STATION

PRINCESSES ELIZABETH AND MARGARET ROSE PAID THEIR FIRST WARTIME VISIT TO AN R.A.F. STATION WHEN THEY ACCOMPANIED THE KING AND QUEEN YESTERDAY.

Princess Elizabeth sat at the controls of a Hudson bomber, and Princess Margaret, lying on the floor of the plane, focussed the bomb sights.

They received instruction from a young Australian pilot. — Reuter.

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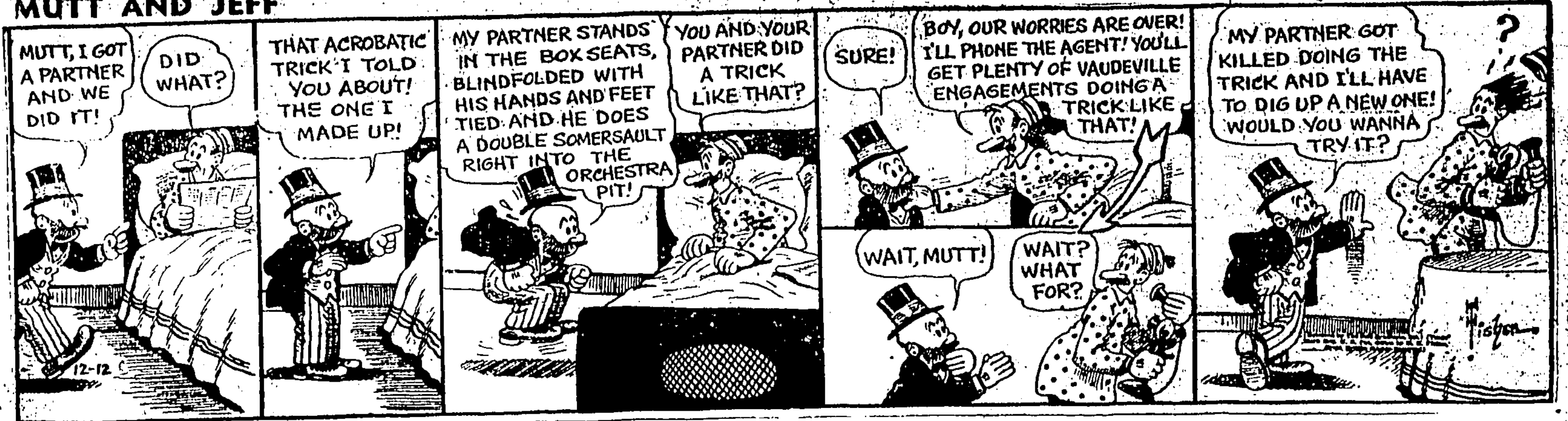
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MR. WILLKIE ON HIS MEETING WITH PREMIER

NEW APPOINTMENT

Mr. Wu Shang-ying, Chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee of the Legislative Yuan, has been appointed Secretary-General of the Yuan, succeeding Mr. Liang Han-chao who has been transferred to another post, according to a mandate issued by the National Government. — Central News.

TALKING TO A Reuter reporter in London last night, Mr. Wendell Willkie, referring to his lunch with the Prime Minister and Mrs. Winston Churchill, said that Mrs. Churchill was most charming.

It was his first meeting with Mr. Churchill and they talked for an hour and three-quarters on the international situation, the war and Anglo-American relations.

Referring to the hour he spent with Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Minister of Labour and member of the War Cabinet, Mr. Willkie said: "He is a grand fellow. We liked each other so much that I made him late for a Cabinet meeting. "Our talk was about labour conditions in England and production in England—what is being done and will be done."

Burned Out City

Dealing with his visit to the devastated area of the City—burned out in the December fire raid—Mr. Willkie described the Guildhall as "a terrible sight with all its historic treasures." He spoke bitterly when he recalled the devastation round St. Paul's and the fact that three million books were burned.

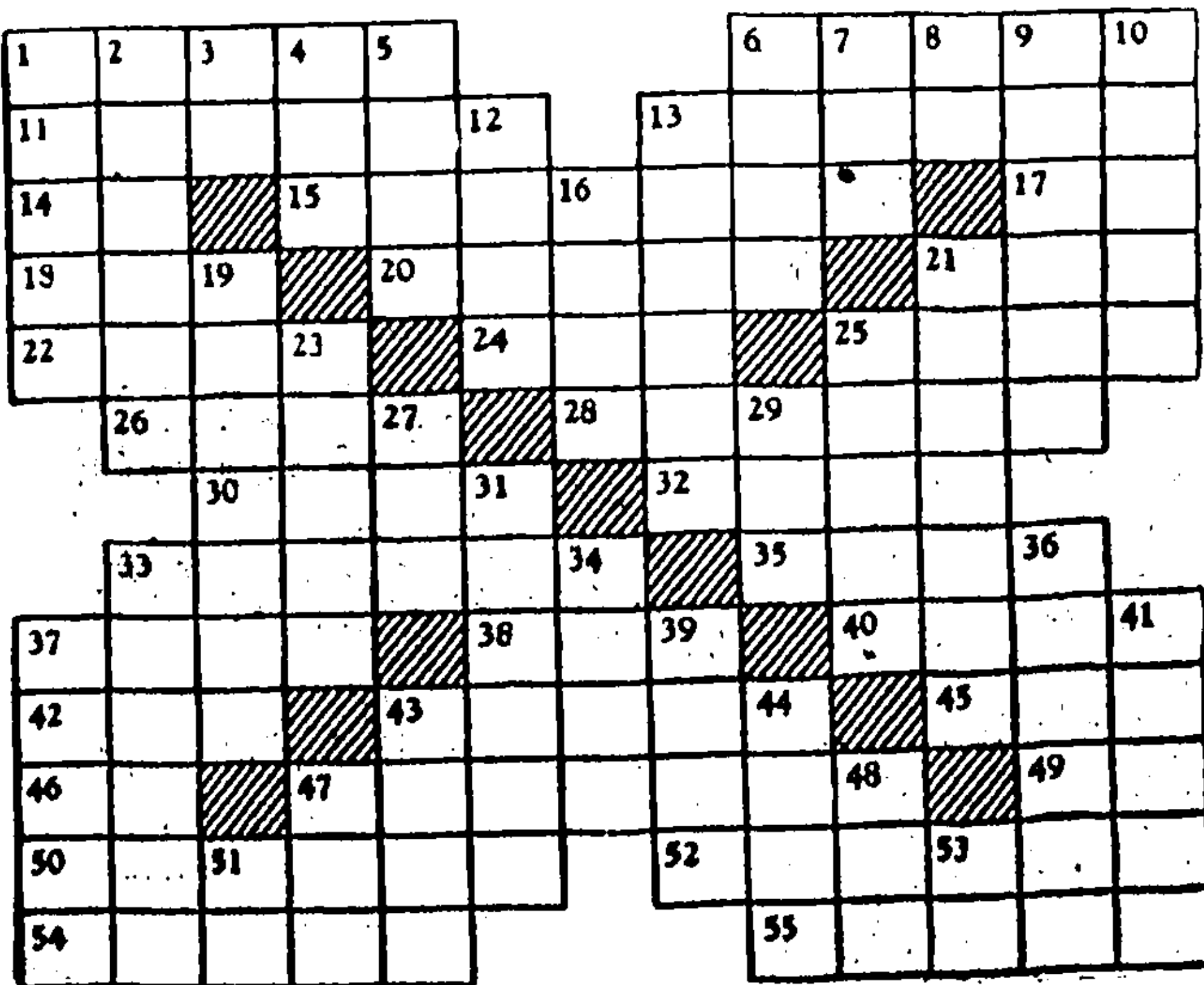
He said: "I thought the burning of Paternoster Row, where books were published, was rather symbolic. They have destroyed the place where truth is told."

Mr. Willkie expressed astonishment at the way raid damage is being dealt with and said: "They are grand people."—Reuter.

Here's Luck!

EWO BEER

OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



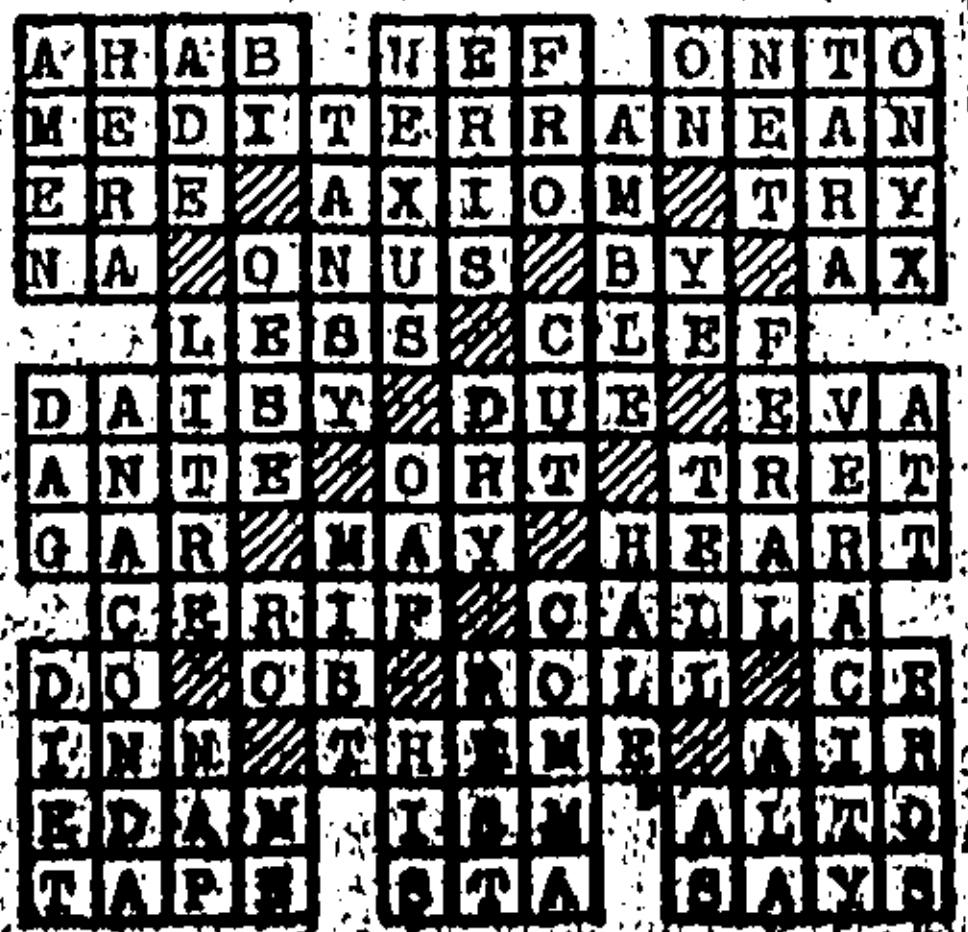
- HORIZONTAL**
- 1 Himalayan mammal
 - 6 Burdens
 - 11 To affirm openly
 - 13 Diminutive
 - 14 Symbol for tellurium
 - 15 Wry face
 - 17 Symbol for nickel
 - 18 Poetic: Hindustan
 - 20 Eaten away
 - 21 Small part
 - 22 Curved molding
 - 24 Slow character
 - 26 Otherwise
 - 28 Serf
 - 29 Hebrew prophet
 - 30 To cease
 - 32 Allowance for waste
 - 33 Springlike
 - 35 Part
 - 37 Alert
 - 38 Slender pole
 - 40 Brain membrane
 - 42 Ditch
 - 43 Footfall
 - 45 To batter
 - 46 Prohibition

- 47 One who buys goods at retail
- 49 Symbol for tantalum
- 50 Highway
- 52 Passes into use
- 54 Chinese coin
- 55 Rends

- VERTICAL**
- 1 Courtyard
 - 2 To exact satisfaction for
 - 3 Negative
 - 4 Deived
 - 5 Land measure
 - 8 Ornamental braid
 - 7 Individual

- 6 By
- 9 European
- 10 To hit
- 12 To employ
- 13 Black pottery
- 16 To suggest
- 19 Course served at the close of a meal
- 21 To talk foolishly
- 23 List of competitors
- 25 To oust
- 27 Vast age
- 29 Babylonian deity
- 31 Imitative person
- 33 Boasts of
- 34 Right
- 36 Click beetle
- 37 Arm joint
- 39 To deceive
- 41 To accumulate
- 43 At that time
- 44 Movable shelter
- 47 To understand
- 48 To regret
- 51 Japanese measure
- 53 And god

SATURDAY'S SOLUTION



CRASHED 'PLANE LOCATED

The "China Mail" learned authoritatively this morning that the C.N.A.C. 'plane which crashed in the interior last Thursday has been located.

"Scouting" machines sent out on Sunday failed to locate the machine owing to bad weather, but yesterday they found the wreck on the side of a mountain. Rescue parties were sent out from Hong Kong yesterday by the China National Aviation Corporation with food and medical supplies.

It was authoritatively confirmed this morning that the machine had on board four Chinese crew (pilot, co-pilot, wireless operator and attendant) and two passengers.

Details of the crash are yet not available and the fate of the six persons who were aboard is also unknown.

The report that only one person (one of the two passengers) survived the crash still lacks confirmation.

SOUTH AFRICA'S DEFENCE BILL

When the Union Parliament re-convened in Capetown yesterday the Minister of Finance, Mr. Hofmeyr, revealed that £14,000,000 would be required for defence in addition to about £20,000,000 already spent on defence this financial year. — Reuter.

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MAJOR ATTACKS IN AFRICA--- BRESCIA FALLS

THE BRITISH FORCES HAVE STRUCK AT ITALIAN SOMALILAND, AND EVERY PART OF ITALY'S AFRICAN EMPIRE IS NOW BEING ATTACKED.

News of the latest operations is contained in a British communique issued in Cairo which also records a rapid advance into Eritrea, concentration of the British main forces round Derna, on the Libyan coast, and the bombing of Italian aerodromes further west.

British forces operating in Italian Eritrea have captured the township of Brescia, together with a further 100 prisoners.

The capture not only marks a 100-mile advance eastwards from Kassala, which was retaken from the Italians a week ago, but places the terminus of the Eritrean railway line to the Red Sea port of Massawa under British control.

The British communique recording the taking of Brescia also reports progress on all other African fronts.

Derna Clash

In Libya, reinforcements are being moved up to the British and Imperial troops in contact with the Italians about Derna.

In Italian Somaliland British forward patrols continue vigorously to extend the area of their penetration into hostile territory in all sectors.

In Abyssinia, in the Metemma area, British pressure continues, concludes the communique. — Reuter.

4TH ARMY INCIDENT

The New Fourth Army incident will cause no unfavourable repercussions, declared Mr. Chow Chikang, Vice-Minister of Overseas Affairs, in an interview with the Central News on the disbandment of the Army recently. Mr. Chow arrived in Hong Kong last Friday from Chungking.

In a unified and organised country, Mr. Chow said, the incident should occasion no surprise, for it is generally recognised that there must be unity of command in a country, without which it is impossible to resist foreign aggression.

Mr. Chow pointed out that the incident was due entirely to the disobedience of the army to orders of the Central Military Authorities. In the past the activities of the Army had been frequently prejudicial to the campaign of resistance. The Central Authorities had exercised considerable forbearance, but they could not tolerate further and had to take stern disciplinary measures to deal with it. In the present united anti-Japanese front, Mr. Chow further stated, there could be no question of any partisan politics in the disciplinary action. — Central News.

A THREAT AVERTED

THE GOVERNOR OF THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE, ADDRESSING A DUBAR AT BANNU YESTERDAY, SAID THE WESTERN DESERT VICTORY NOT ONLY RENDERED EGYPT SAFE BUT AVERTED THE THREAT TO TURKEY AND ALL ISLAMIC COUNTRIES.

In the last war Turkey learnt what the Germans were like and now, like all other Muslim countries, they found out and their interests were identical. — Reuter.

WILLKIE ARRIVES IN LONDON

"I am here as Wendell Willkie and I am representing none," declared Mr. Willkie on arrival in the west of England on Sunday. He only remained 20 minutes before taking off again.

Mr. Willkie said he had had a fine trip and added: "I never felt better in my life."

He said he was anxious to say little more at this stage than hello and wished to have a look round before saying anything more.

"I have come here to have a look round and to deliver a letter from President Roosevelt to Mr. Churchill," declared the black-haired, stocky and smiling Mr. Willkie to Reuter when he arrived in London.

"I am not going to say anything now and I have not made any arrangements but I expect to meet a good few people and see a good deal," Mr. Willkie continued.

Mr. Willkie said he had had a good trip all the way over, right up to the landing which was made in misty and slightly foggy weather.

Mr. Willkie was welcomed by representatives of the Prime Minister, the Foreign Office and the U.S. Embassy. — Reuter.

EASTERN SUPPLY COUNCIL

AN EASTERN GROUP SUPPLY COUNCIL IS TO BE SET UP WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, SOUTH AFRICA AND INDIA.

This announcement by the Ministry of Supply adds that in appointing the Council the Government have accepted a recommendation to this effect made by the conference on supply arrangements east of Suez convened by the Viceroy in October last.

Function of the Council will be co-ordination of arrangements for production of munitions and stores in various Empire countries in South and East Africa and Asia, and stores in the Pacific area. — Reuter.

TRAWLER DOWNS A JUNKERS

A GERMAN JUNKERS 88 BOMBER WAS SHOT DOWN BY THE BRITISH TRAWLER GALVANI ON SUNDAY MORNING.

An Admiralty communique states that when attempting to attack the trawler the plane was so damaged that it crashed soon afterwards on the Norfolk coast. The trawler suffered no damage or casualties. — Reuter.

BRITAIN ABANDONS DEFENCE

"The Germans will encounter very serious difficulties if they attempt to invade Britain," declares a writer in the Soviet military review "Red Star."

The writer adds that the powerful German military machine is apparently not powerful enough to cross the Channel, controlled by the strong British Fleet, and though the menace of invasion exists Britain's resistance is now much stronger than in May, 1940.

"Germany would require colossal strength in order successfully to carry out an invasion."

The writer says Britain has now abandoned her traditional policy of defence and has taken the initiative.

"The British war machine, learning from bitter experience, has switched over to the attack."

"When the British attacked at Sidi Barrani most observers did not attach much military significance to the move, but British generals proved good pupils and successfully carried out an advance on the basis of modern military methods, and the strong Italian fortifications did not succeed in retarding them." — Reuter.

FUNERAL OF MRS. RAFAEK

ONE OF THE OLDEST RESIDENTS IN THE COLONY—MRS. AMINA RAFAEK—PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY AT HER RESIDENCE, NO. 118, CAINE ROAD, ON SUNDAY.

Aged 87 years, the deceased was the mother of Mr. M. Rafeek, of the O.S.K. To mourn her loss she leaves behind, besides her son, many grand-children, among whom are Messrs. A. E. N. Rafeek, Solomon Rafeek and Mrs. A. H. Rumjahn.

The funeral took place at the Mohammedan Mosque, Happy Valley, yesterday afternoon.

The chief mourner was the deceased's son, Mr. M. Rafeek, followed by Messrs. A. E. M. Rafeek, Solomon Rafeek, Omar Rafeek, and Osman Rafeek (grand-sons); Misses Sophie Rafeek, Molly Rafeek, Aisha Rafeek, Leiya Rafeek and Mrs. A. H. Rumjahn (grand-daughters); Miss Mariam Rafeek (great-grand daughter); and Messrs. A. H. Rumjahn and A. H. Rahummed (great grand sons-in-law).

Others present were Messrs. U. Rumjahn, M. A. Razack, A. G. Sufflad, N. Arab, A. Bux, S. A. Cassumbhoy, Zimmern, Chow Shui-kam, E. Sadick, Lo Yu-yan, Miss Sin, and many others.

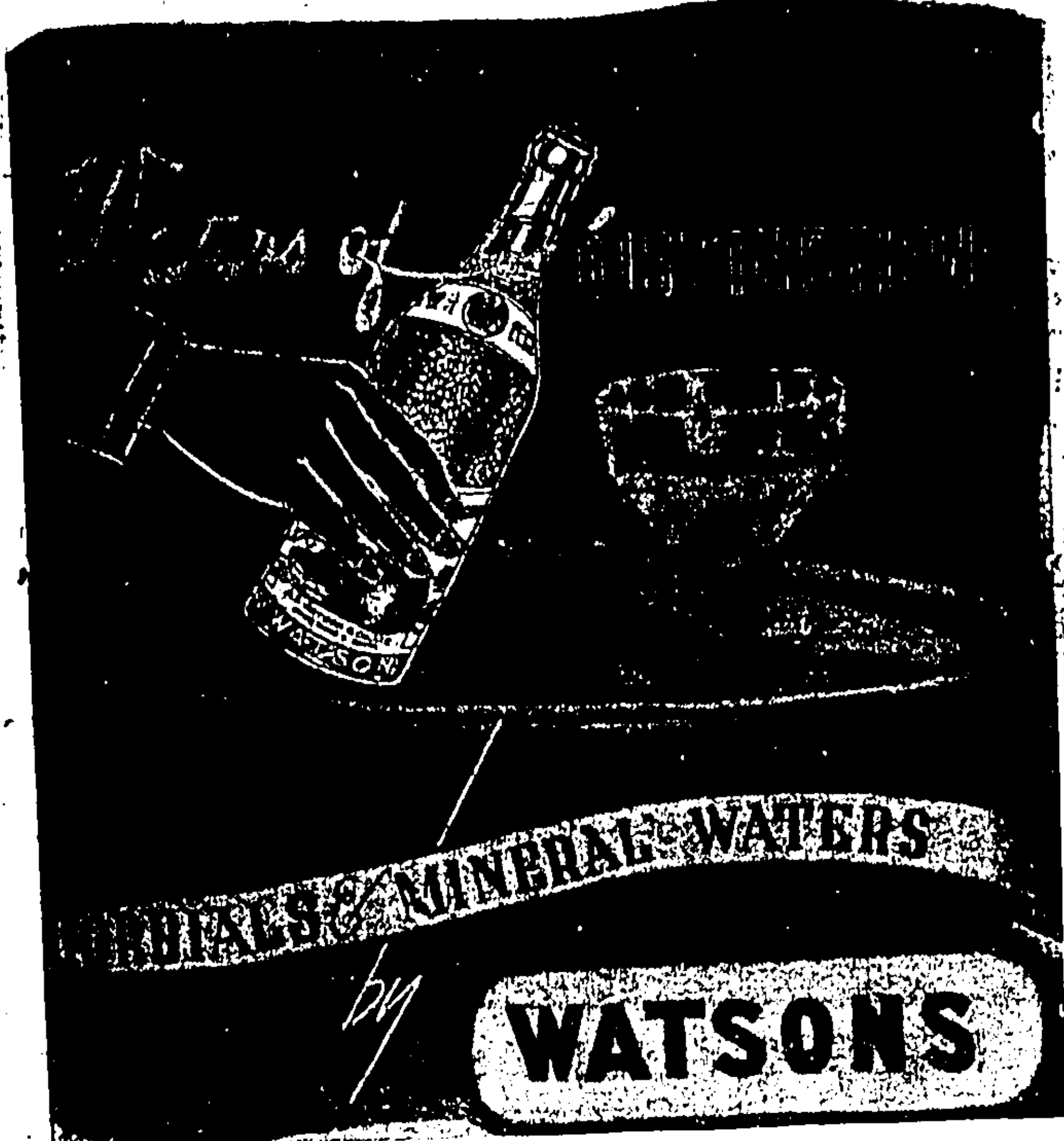
PICK POCKET'S \$2,000 HAUL

Members of the light-fingered gentry were active during the holiday mingling with the crowds outside theatres.

One their victims was a Chinese merchant, Cheung Chung-tak, of No. 65, Wongneichung Road, who lost \$2,000 from his hip-pocket while purchasing cinema tickets at the King's Theatre yesterday.

NEW C-IN-C IN INDIA

General Auchinleck, new Commander-in-Chief India, has assumed command in substitution to General Sir Robert Clive. — Reuter.



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DISTANT MEMORIES

The Greeks and the Romans have the most exciting past in Europe, and it is not surprising that they revert to their great legends in times of war. The Greek Prime Minister, when appealing to his nation, quoted the famous lines in which the Persian messenger in the "Persae" gave to the mother of Xerxes the news of the Greek victory at Salamis. "A mighty shout greeted our ears: On, ye sons of Hellas! Free your native land, free your children, your wives, the temples of your fathers' gods, and the tombs of your ancestors. You battle for your all." Mussolini, too, lets his mind run on the past. He likes to fancy himself the founder of a second Rome in which the glory of the old Empire will live again. The conquest of Greece was a stage in the great career that made Rome the mistress of the world that Alexander the Great had conquered in the East, and Fascist enthusiasts when they set out on the conquest of Greece to-day doubtless thought of it too as but a stage in a similar series of triumphs. Greece was to be followed by Egypt and the entire Middle East.

Unhappily, the contrasts between the old Empire and the new are stronger than the affinities. The Roman conquest was marked by some brutalities worthy to rank with Fascist crimes, such as the sack of Corinth, and Sulla paid for his savage treatment of Athens in the infamy with which his name was branded in the writings of Cicero, Plutarch, and St. Augustine. But though there were these resemblances in the history of the Roman Republic and of Fascist warfare there is a capital difference between the tolerant temper of the Roman Empire and the narrow prejudices of the Fascist philosophy. Rome's chief service to mankind was that she created a vast political unity within which Greek ideas and Greek culture could spread. Men of all races taught her peoples, led her armies, administered her laws, and governed her empire. That was the secret of her power.

The Poet And The Place

A correspondent, following up something I had written about the rolling waves of Derbyshire scenery under a blue sky, has raised the question why that county should lack poets. Is it the case that certain districts have, as well as strength and beauty of tint and texture in their landscapes, a spirituality which touches fine spirits to fine issues? Are Westmorland and Cumberland, that is to say, naturally more evocative of man's creative affection than the shires of the Pennine Chain? Is the keen air of Derbyshire, he suggests, productive only of appetite for ham and eggs? Does it lack that which vibrates the finer strings of consciousness?

Certainly the peaks and dales and meres of the Lake District strike the senses more swiftly than anything of the kind elsewhere in England. The skyline has often a jagged proximity hardly ever discovered in the fells, and the lakes themselves are as perfectly the mirrors of a tranquil day as are the crags the expression of a wild one. So the district should naturally elicit a quick and full response from the observant eye and the sensitive spirit.

But, apart from one man and the people under his high in-

fluence, has the Lake District been so markedly "evocative"? It has recently lured Sir Hugh Walpole from his earlier Cornish affections, but it made little music after Wordsworth, and in the beginning of the twentieth century it was certainly less of a stimulant to the lyrical impulse than

By Ivor Brown

was a Cotswold or a Sussex scene. This leads us to the unexciting but, I think, inevitable conclusion that places do not make poets but have poets thrust upon them.

Warwickshire had a claim to be the chief nesting-place of the Elizabethan Muse, with Shakespeare coming out of Stratford and Drayton at Clifford Chambers hard by. But, when we have said the most we can for Avon's placid course among the water-meadows to its gentle confluence with Stour and later on with Severn, the Shakespeare country remains the

normal English pastoral chequer-board, probably wilder and more wooded in Shakespeare's time, but not, as one might say, especially constructed to stir the heart and strike the lyre. Since that time Warwickshire has been no more "evocative" than anywhere else. Shropshire, with its great variety of exquisite scene, was certainly hypnotic to Housman, but there again the spell was not infectious.

Surely the truth is that poets respond to what stimulus is present according to the range and richness of their own sensibility. It was not Fyfield's elm and Cumnor Hurst that actually made the Scholar Gipsy's ode any more than Grantchester created Rupert Brooke's familiar effusion. Arnold might have written as well about a Cambridge gipsy and Brooke about Abingdon or Bablock Hythe. The greatest mother of English poets happens to be London, simply because it is the greatest mother of men and women. It may sound a very dull answer to

our query to suggest that spread of population is the chief cause for the dispersion or aggregation of poets. Assuming that one man in every hundred thousand is potentially a writer or painter of real and abiding distinction, then such writers and painters will mainly occur where the myriads abide. Poor Keats was sneered at as a Cockney, but London, before and since he heard his Hampstead nightingale, has continued to prove both populous and prolific as a hen-coop of the Muses: not through any special merit of its own but simply because it is crammed full of eyes, ears, and fingers, some of which are certain to be clever. There is more poetry made now in Kensington than in Keswick, for obvious statistical reasons.

Where there are millions art must emerge. Where there are only thousands the artist happens by chance and may occasionally happen anywhere. The greatest of Scottish poets was not inspired by the romantic Highlands but found his themes in the farm-yards, taverns, banks, and braces of agreeable but unexciting Ayrshire. London and the Home Counties score not only by the size of native population but by their attractive power for people settling down, whether they be ex-Anglo-Indians, like Kipling, or practising journalists, like Belloc.

A district which has been especially well represented by letters lately has been East Anglia and the East Midlands, with Messrs. Blunden, Mottram, and H. E. Bates following in verse and prose such senior singers as Crabbe, Cowper, and Clare. Yet those "stolchy" levels strike some of us as quite ordinary, uninspiring to a man of vision.

And there really lies the point. The discovery of significance is not bounded by any shire or any theme. A man manuring a field can be as fit a subject for a canvas or a lyric as the most picturesque shepherd on the sunlit, snowy fells.

Like shocks in a reaped field of rye

The small black heaps of lively dung

Sprinkled in the grace-meadow lie

Licking the air with smoky tongue.

This is Earth's food that man piles up

And with his fork will thrust on her,

And Earth will lie and slowly sup With her moist mouth through half the year.

Those lines are by Mr. Andrew Young, a capital poet of to-day, who has a singular genius for finding stimulus in topics of the least impressive kinds. I do not mean that he definitely cultivates squalor, but he simply takes the normal English scene, rather grey, misty, and featureless, the workaday pastoral of the labourer's round, and distils a loveliness by discovering the significance of the ordinary detail. He can be thoroughly warmed up by a really wet day or rapt by a dank and misty field. I cannot help feeling that if he spent from November to March in a hill-farm in Derbyshire he would emerge in April with a sheaf of most delicate poetry. It is a matter of luck where the poet happens to be.

The plain truth about Derbyshire is that it deserves far more response than it has received. But so do a host of places. Winander was none the less Winander, but quite unsung, when "the birds of passion and of mirth" were cultivating black spots in front of their eyes on the sherrissack of the Mermald, the Apollo, and the Devil taprooms. Later on Wordsworth passed that way and put Winander in the centre of the cultural map. Of course the "Lakes" had a tremendous effect on him. But so did beauty everywhere. Had he been educated in Hammersmith instead of Hawkshead he would have been a poet still, different in scope but not in magnitude. Obviously certain places exercise a powerful hold on certain people which will both localise and intensify their inspiration. But poetry, if it is in a man, will out. Derbyshire, if it be under-represented in our letters, has not failed to be "evocative." It has merely failed to be lucky.

The Choice Of Books War-Time Questions And Tendencies

I HAVE been trying to discover how many people in England are reading to-day and what they are reading. It is no easy problem to solve, but I have had the help of Miss Christina Foyle and of some of the managers of circulating libraries. It is encouraging to report that in the country as a whole there has been a great increase of reading since the "total" war began. For obvious reasons London has read less and some other parts of the country have read more. In London some hardy readers continue in the disturbed night watches their steady way through long and substantial volumes, but on the whole there is a demand for light reading and, above all, for short stories. One editor of a London circulating library comments, "Give us more good short stories. There are not enough of them." In the past publishers have been timid of the short story, firm in the belief that the public will not buy them in volume form. Here is a new opportunity for some writer and some publisher. If we had a new O. Henry now he would match the mood and the social need of the hour. There must be groups of people in shelters who would listen to an O. Henry type of story, with that memorable "click" at the close.

I am not suggesting that the whole demand is for light literature. One bookseller reports an interesting increase in the demand for religious books and for books by foreign writers. Some readers seem determined to retain a contact with the Europe they cannot visit by means of the printed word. Similarly, another correspondent reports an increasing interest in works of travel. Byron's "Childe Harold" was read over a hundred years ago by men and women who had been shut off from Europe by the Napoleonic wars, and that same longing is present to-day—the desire to recapture old memories of those incredibly good days when one could move freely across Europe.

From every quarter I find that books about how the war started

or what Nazi Germany is really like are at a discount. Even books about Hitler are no longer popular. This type of war book had many readers in the Munich period, when the German threat was

By B. Ifor Evans

first realised on any wide scale in this country. To-day, to quote Miss Foyle, "people are no longer interested in Hitler's ambitions nor, I am afraid, in the war aims of either nation." A few sensational books on our pre-war politics and diplomacy are exceptions and have had large sales. Mr. Stanley Urwin in a recent broadcast suggested that there would be an increase in reading this winter. Necessity may make readers of us all. He commented on the large demand for books of permanent value and for the classics, "which so many publishers now reprint so excellently in cheap editions. My own inquiries also show a return to the classics of English literature, while several good anthologies are in demand." Could not some publisher produce a "Shelter Anthology" on the lines of the "Week-end Book"?

The ambition of most men and women is still to lead a private life. It is true that war makes inroads on privacy, but there are many signs that men and women are still trying to carry on with the simple but rewarding occupations that absorbed their leisure in peace-time. Books on gardening are still popular, and on handicrafts and hobbies, while cookery books continue to have a steady sale in a rationed world. It is a more intellectual aspect of this desire for privacy that has led some readers to philosophy and biography and made popular works such as Andre Maurois's "The Art of Living" and John Luchan's "Memory Hold the Door."

On fiction the information I have is conflicting and I suppose tastes vary so much that any precise conclusions are difficult. I have found general agreement that some novels have been outstandingly popular, and amongst these are—

Louis Bromfield's "Night in Bonday."

Rose Macaulay's "And No Man's Wit."

Michael Sadleir's "Fanny By Gaslight."

Howard Spring's "Fame is the Spur."

Hugh Walpole's "Bright Pavilions."

F. Brett Young's "Mr. Lucton's Freedom."

Negley Farson's "Behind God's Back" is also mentioned as a favourite. These volumes are not war fiction in any sense that the war is their background. H. G. Wells, as far as I know, in "Babes in the Darkling Wood," is the only writer to have attempted that, and a very difficult task it proves even to his practised hand. But whatever my Lords and Commons may say of his opinions, Mr. Wells can pick up a contemporary atmosphere like a thirsty sponge. On "thrillers" my information is confusing. One circulating library reports that "good thriller fiction is going well." On the other hand a bookseller writes, "People do not buy many thrillers." Perhaps both views are correct, and that "thrillers" are a borrowable rather than a buyable commodity. I thought that the war would kill the "thriller," but then most of one's speculations about the war have been false. I could not see how a reader could go on paying attention to the death of one fictional aunt or don or stockbroker or whatever it might be. But perhaps the "thriller" is a reassuring token of normality, just as when one hears on the B.B.C. after the air-raid news a police message that a single pedal cyclist has been knocked down.

In general there is abundant evidence that reading survives the war, and that publishers, in spite of their difficulties, survive to feed the readers. As one surveys the reading problem as a whole it can be seen as part of the larger problem of social adjustment which has been thrown at us in this stage of the war. There have been shifts of population from one area to another. Do the books follow them? Are reading groups and circulating libraries keeping pace with our migrations? This in turn is part of the larger problem of whether we are working for a balanced society or for chaos. For this is the lesson of the hour, set before us in terms that will not admit of hesitation or compromise. We must remake our society even in this hour of the war, and in that remaking other parts of the country may gain much of what London may lose.



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DUCE HANDS ARMIES OVER TO NAZIS

LARGE FORCES OF GERMAN TROOPS ARE POURING INTO SOUTHERN ITALY AND THE GERMANS ARE TAKING CONTROL OF THE ITALIAN ARMIES, ACCORDING TO ANKARA RADIO YESTERDAY, THE ANNOUNCER ADDING THAT SPECIAL MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN IN ITALY TO CONCEAL THESE MOVEMENTS.

German staff officers have been despatched to take charge of the duties of Italian divisions, army corps and army headquarters.

The announcer added: "This means, of course, that the Italian defence organisation will very shortly be controlled by Germany."

Meanwhile no confirmation has reached London of extensive unrest in Italy, as reported from certain quarters outside that country, Reuter learns in London.

In the past few weeks there have been apparently well substantiated reports of minor trouble from Rome, Milan, Turin and other large towns, but authoritative circles consider it advisable to treat reports of more extensive trouble with considerable reserve until reliable confirmation is forthcoming.

The Germans are to be found mostly in Sicily but they are also fairly numerous in the neighbourhood of Trieste and in the north-eastern provinces, the authoritative circles add. — Reuter.

SICK WANT TO BE "SUICIDE SQUAD"

Sufferers from tuberculosis in Greek sanatoria have written to General Metaxas volunteering to form "suicide squads—ready for any sacrifices," since they feel themselves "already condemned to death." — Reuter.

LULL IN THE AIR

THE REMARKABLE LULL IN GERMAN AIR ACTIVITY OVER BRITAIN CONTINUED ON SUNDAY.

Only attack throughout the country during daylight was by a single aircraft which dropped a bomb on the north-east coast, and even this caused no damage or casualties.

This was announced in an Air Ministry communique issued on Sunday evening. — Reuter.

DEFENCE MEASURES IN KEDAH

In celebration of the Sultan of Kedah's seventy-ninth birthday the Kedah States Council has set aside \$1,000,000 towards the cost of emergency defence measures in Kedah.

Lord Lloyd, the Colonial Secretary, has expressed the British Government's deep appreciation of the act. — Reuter.

FRENCH FASCIST ARRESTED BY GERMANS

Colonel de la Roque, former leader of the French Fascist organisation and a member of the newly-appointed National Council, is reported from Vichy to have been arrested by the Germans as he entered the occupied zone.

He was a supporter of the Entente Cordiale. — Reuter.

RUMANIA'S BIGGEST MANHUNT

Military and police patrols are now engaged in one of the biggest man-hunts in Rumania's history following the collapse of the five-day Iron Guard revolt against the Government of General Antonescu.

Rebel leaders still at liberty are being vigorously rounded up and secret stores of arms seized.

Life in Bucharest is almost normal except in certain districts which are cordoned off by the military.

The train services have again started but the ordinary public are required to obtain permission to travel.

General Antonescu has signed a decree militarising all police stations on the frontier, at ports, aerodromes and railway stations according to a Bucharest despatch to the Berlin news agency. — Reuter.

RAF RAIDS IN AFRICA CONTINUE

The R.A.F. gave intensive support to the British Army in its successful advance east of Keru, in Italian East Africa.

An R.A.F. communique issued in Cairo states dive attacks were made on motor transport concentrated on a road near Tellena with considerable effect.

Numerous reconnaissance flights were also carried out. British fighters made active offensive patrols throughout the day in the Martuba-Mecheti area but no conclusive engagement with the enemy resulted.

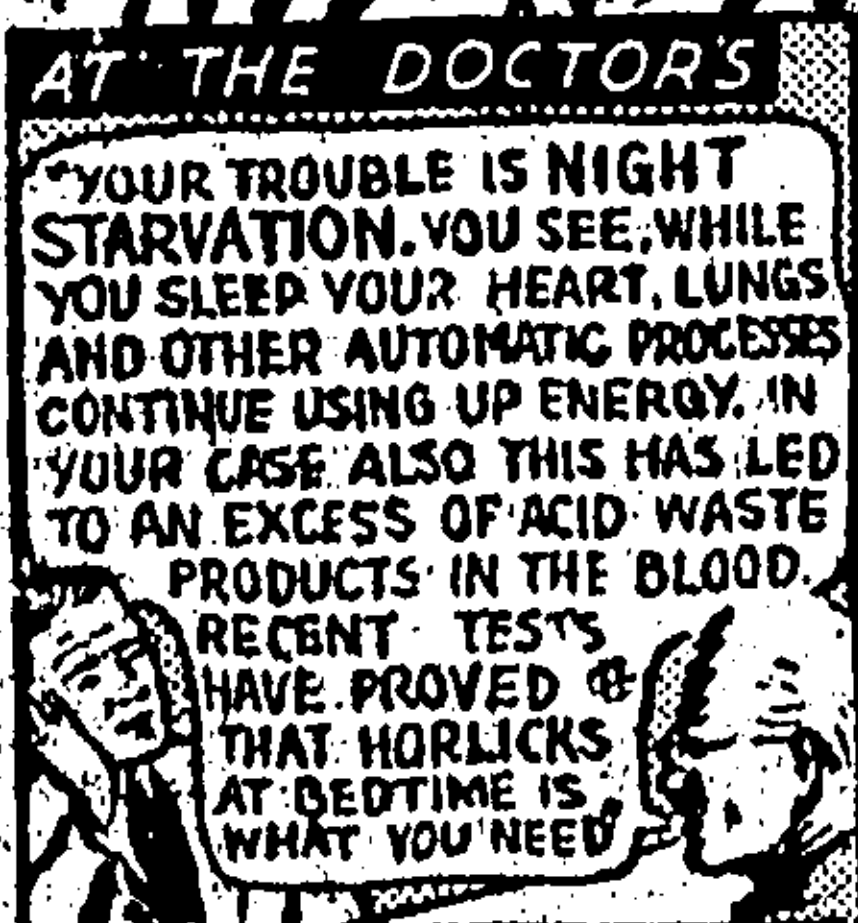
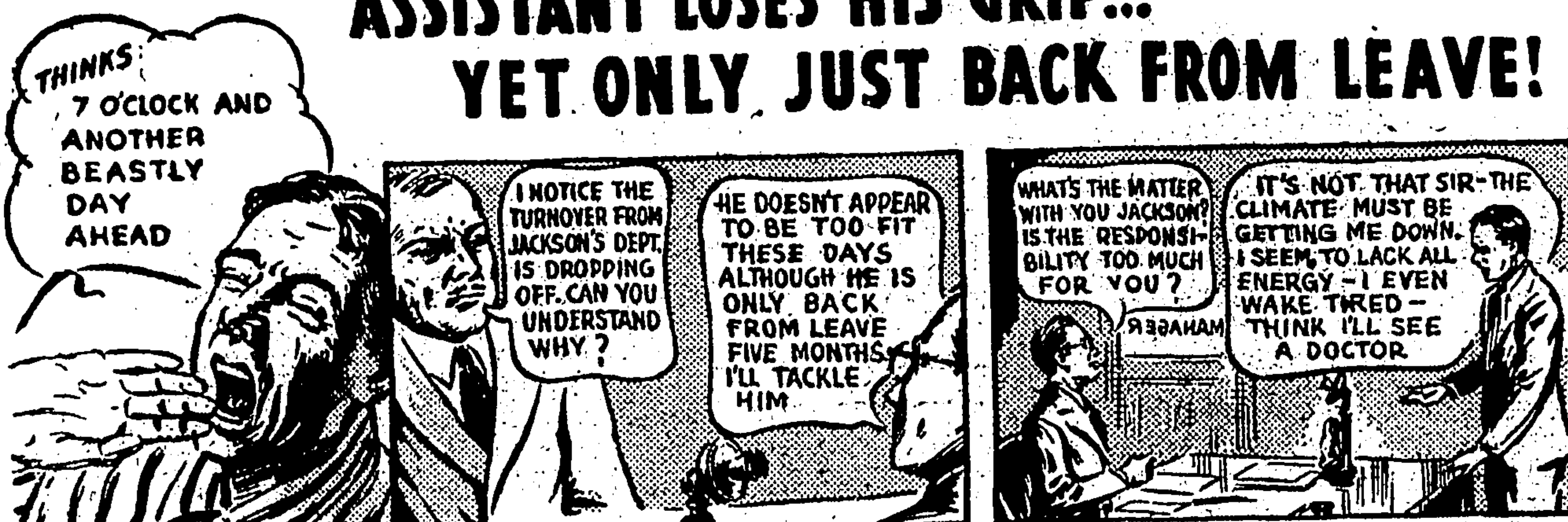
A fighter plane reported in a previous communique as having failed to return has now been located safely at Tobruk.

The landing ground at Marau, in Libya, was raided and bombs fell within the target area.

The aerodrome at Barce was also attacked. At Gharabub, an Italian bomber was destroyed on the ground.

The communique concludes: "The R.A.F. will continue to support the British Army in its advance."

ASSISTANT LOSES HIS GRIP... YET ONLY JUST BACK FROM LEAVE!



DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS USE HORLICKS IN HOSPITAL TESTS

RECENTLY tests were made in a great hospital on men and women who complained of always feeling tired.

It was found that these people had an excess of acid waste products in their blood during sleep.

This acid waste kept the brain and nerves 'on edge' all night, even though the rest of the body was sound asleep.

But when Horlicks was given to these people last thing at night, this excess acid waste was completely neutralised. They woke refreshed, with increased energy and vitality.



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LULL IN THE NAZI AIR ACTIVITY: THREE REASONS SUGGESTED

(By Reuter's Air Correspondent)

Three possible reasons advanced yesterday for the lull in German air activity over Britain, which led to London enjoying its first week without a raid since September, are, in order of credibility:

Firstly, bad weather on the Continent. Secondly, Germany's two-front air war, and Thirdly, re-equipment and resting.

There can be no great certainty as to the causes but the above reasons commend themselves in well-informed quarters where there is no belief that the present inactivity is in any way mysterious.

The Low Countries and Northern France are drenched in the thaw following the recent sharp frost and snowfall.

Many of the German advanced bases are probably flooded and others temporarily unserviceable.

The weather generally on the other side of the English Channel in the past week has been most unfavourable for flying since the great freeze earlier last year. Seventy-five per cent of German inactivity may be attributed to this factor.

Gloomy Forecasts

R.A.F. operations have been severely restricted for the same reason. Weather forecasts have been gloomy enough to persuade the Bomber Command that crews would have great difficulty in locating their targets and bombing them accurately.

Weather apart, there is little doubt that the necessary redistribution of forces for her air war on two fronts is having some immediate effect on the striking power of Germany's air force in Western Europe.

How lasting these will be depends on the scale of German commitments in the Mediterranean, and that itself may depend on how critical becomes Italy's position.

New squadrons have arrived at Sicilian bases and Heinkel III bombers have appeared in action.

Present Indications

Present indications are that the Luftwaffe will be reserved for attacking the British Fleet and its Mediterranean bases, for action in Albania (where weather limits its use at present), or, it is even possible, for the defence of an Italy shorn of its empire and of the back door to Germany.

Re-equipment of squadrons remaining in Northern France and the Low Countries, in preparation for what will probably be the decisive air clash with Britain, is no doubt being pushed ahead.

This would enable crews temporarily without planes to enjoy a much-needed rest after six months of continuous action.

New Nazi Fighter

One new German fighter—the Heinkel 113—is in service already and the Focke-Wulf and subsidiary factories have been busy for months past turning out new fighters and bombers.

It is certain that the Luftwaffe, refreshed and to a certain extent re-equipped, will take the earliest opportunity to return to full operations over Britain by night and day and will maintain this offensive as much as its commitments elsewhere and R.A.F. retaliation will permit.

CHOSE DROWNING TO STARVING

THE PURSER OF A BRITISH STEAMER WAS ASLEEP IN HIS CABIN WHEN THE SHIP WAS TORPEDOED.

After hastily donning clothes and lifejacket in the dark he went up on deck to find that the ship was sinking.

He was ordered to his boat station, but asked the captain for permission to return to his cabin.

It was at first refused. With some difficulty and diffidence he explained that he would rather be drowned than starved to death in a lifeboat, so could he please go back for his false teeth.

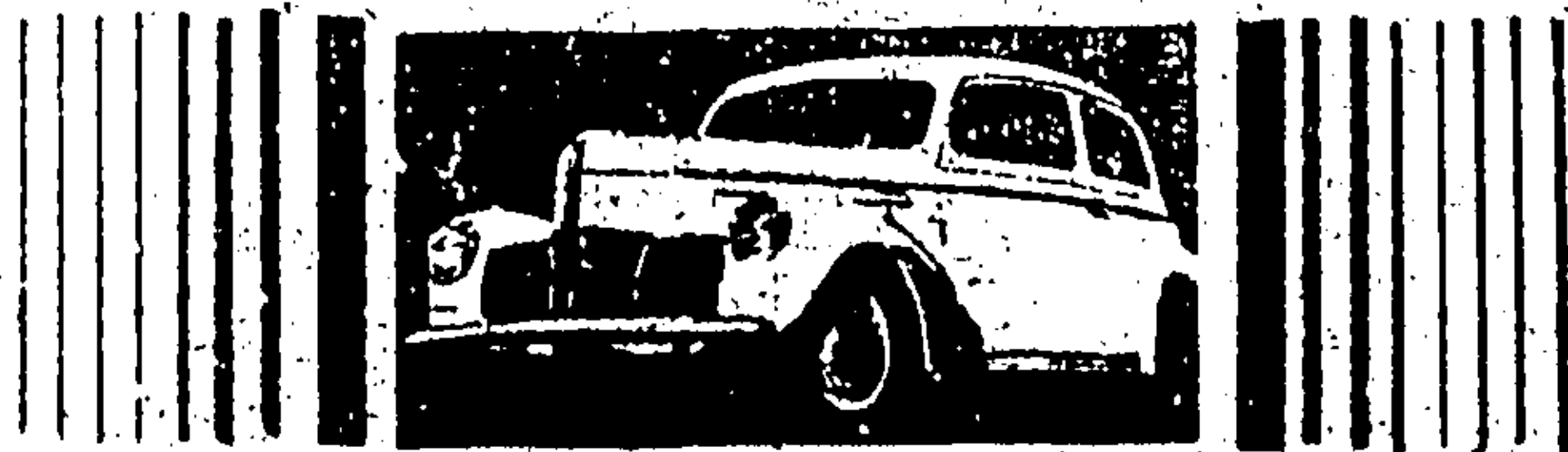
The teeth were rescued, and so was the owner.

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HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held at the Hong Kong Hotel, Hong Kong, on TUESDAY, the 11th. February, 1941, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st. December, 1940.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, 1st. February to TUESDAY, 11th. February, both days inclusive.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, General Managers.
Hong Kong, 21st January, 1941.

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BRIDGE NOLES

THE KILLING LEAD
By The Four Aces

Choosing the best opening lead is very often just a matter of listening attentively to the bidding. West did just that and made the correct deduction:

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

♠ 6
♥ Q 10 9 7
♦ 4 3
♣ A Q 10 6 5 2

♠ A 10 8
♥ 7 2
♦ A K 10
♣ 6 2

♠ Q 5
♥ 4 3 2
♦ 9 8 7
♣ J 9 8 7

♠ K J 9 4 3
♥ A K J 8
♦ Q J 6
♣ 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West was struck by the fact that North was too weak to bid over two diamonds yet could jump to four hearts when South reopened the fit for spades. West therefore opened a trump in order to reduce dummy's ruffing power.

The trump lead was a "killer," for South found himself unable to make the contract. Dummy won with the nine of hearts and returned the singleton spade. South correctly guessed the jack, forcing out West's Ace, and West then led his other trump.

South won, cashed the spade King and ruffed a low spade. In the dummy, thus discovering the bad news about the spade suit. South managed to ruff one more spade in the dummy and discarded the last spade on the Queen of clubs, but he could not avoid the loss of three diamond tricks in addition to the spade Ace, and thus failed to make his contract. If West had made a normal opening lead of the King of diamonds, it would then have been too late to shift to trumps, careful play would have enabled South to make the contract.

Saturday you were Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you held:

♠ K J 9 7 3
♥ 8 6 2
♦ 10 4
♣ 10 9 2

The bidding:

Schenken	Burnstone	You	Jacoby
10	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	(?)	

ANSWER: Pass. You had to struggle to find a response to the opening bid, and your partner's rebid shows no additional strength. You may have a little trouble making two spades, so cannot dream of making a further bid. Score 100% for pass, 0 for any other bid.

Question No. 624

To-day you are Oswald Jacoby's partner and, with neither side vulnerable, you hold

♠ A 8 2
♥ A
♦ J 9 7 6 4
♣ Q 9 4 3

The bidding:

You	Schenken	Jacoby	Malow
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
(?)			

What do you bid? (Answer To-morrow).

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OFF THE RECORD By ED REED

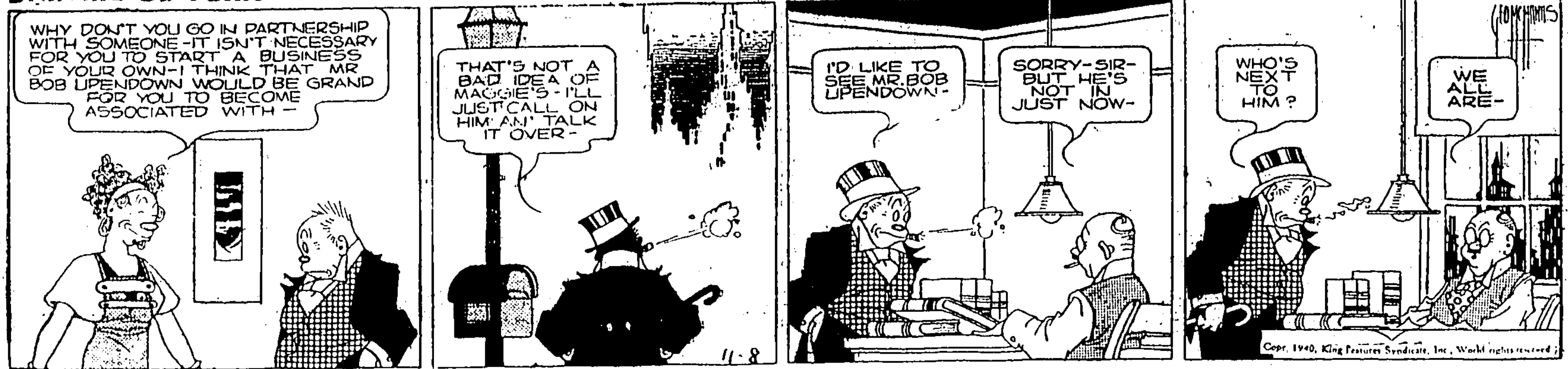


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Bringing Up Father



A PAGE FOR WOMEN Reforming Eating Habits

Too many women wait until they become dangerously ill before they will reform their body-starving eating habits. Then, in desperation, they seek knowledge of health-building diets in the hope they may regain their energy and beauty through correct, well-balanced menus.

In many instances they have procrastinated too long. Their nutrition-starved bodies are unable to respond to any treatment, and they face their remaining years with little hope of enjoying sound health. And when health leaves one's life, woman's greatest heritage also departs—her vital beauty.

You and I know many women who boast they get along on almost no food, or a very limited amount. Others like to brag about eating "anything I want at any time and it doesn't seem to hurt me." And still others we meet, take delight in keeping their figures slim through fad dieting.

What all these women do not realize is that a day will come when the piper must be paid! Just when they have a little leisure to enjoy life (after their families have been raised and their husbands comfortably settled in business) they will develop minor ailments, which, statistics show, are followed by major illnesses. American women in their late forties, fifties and sixties have an alarming percentage of part-invalids in their group. And at least fifty per cent of this number could have prevented this state of impaired health if they had only eaten correctly during previous years.

Primary Rules Of Proper Eating

Progressive physicians, and nutritionists, have made great discoveries about food forces during the past twenty-five years. Some of their discoveries appear to be contradictory when you study diet intensely as I have done. But from this mass of material which has been presented in medical papers, and surveys, the layman may glean essential rules of eating which build good health and tend to prevent disease.

Your body needs a **BALANCED** diet even though you may have a bird-like appetite. It needs dairy products, some meat and fowl, fresh fruits and vegetables in good portions, honey, nuts, whole grains in breads and cereals, some sea food, natural fats or oils which come in such foods.

CUTS

scratches, abrasions, bruises, burns, scalds, insect bites and stings are quickly soothed and healed by the application of She-Ko. Also for the curative treatment of eczema, ringworm, sores, itchi, sunburn, chapped lips and hands, this fragrant anti-septic ointment is equally rapidly beneficial. Keep a tin handy in the home, your foresight will reward you. Obtainable from chemists everywhere.

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BILLIE BURKE does not hesitate to tell women that her beauty, health and success depend greatly on well-balanced menus. She is modern about her diet.

as butter, olive oil, soy beans, avocado pears, cream and nuts. What your body does not need, and is infinitely better without, are elaborate dishes, rich starchy sauces, fried foods, sugar-laden desserts, more than two cups of coffee per day, liquor, candy creamed foods.

The preparation of your food should be simple. Steam cook your vegetables so you do not pour off all the nourishment; broil or bake your meats, fish and fowl; eat well-washed fruits and vegetables uncooked either separately or combined in salads; drink fruit

juices fresh if you can get fresh fruit, otherwise drink canned juices; learn the value of fresh vegetable juices. Vary your menus by eating some of all the fresh fruits and vegetables available and do not neglect the dairy products.

Along with correct menus you should get sunshine, fresh air and rest. Never eat when you are exhausted and every once in a while let one day be a liquid day. The good health you will reap is worth any sacrifice you think you are making in holding to such a schedule.

Shortcake Topped With Foamy Sauce

Yes, it's frankly rich and yummy—one of that gay company of dark spicy cakes that are as much a part of the season's festivities.

The new note in this particular cake, however, is that it is split and filled with luscious mincemeat, then topped with a cream foamy sauce—all of which

makes it wonderful to look at as well as wonderful to eat. As a change, try filling with applesauce instead of mincemeat. This is delicious, too, and is, of course, less rich.

This is how to make the cake:
1 1/4 cups flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon cloves
3 tablespoons shortening (1/2 butter)
3/4 cup sugar
1 egg
1 can condensed tomato soup

Sift flour, then measure, add the baking powder, soda and spices and sift again. Cream the shortening, add the sugar gradually and cream well. Then add the beaten egg. At the last add the flour mixture alternately with the tomato soup. Pour into a well-buttered 9 inch square baking

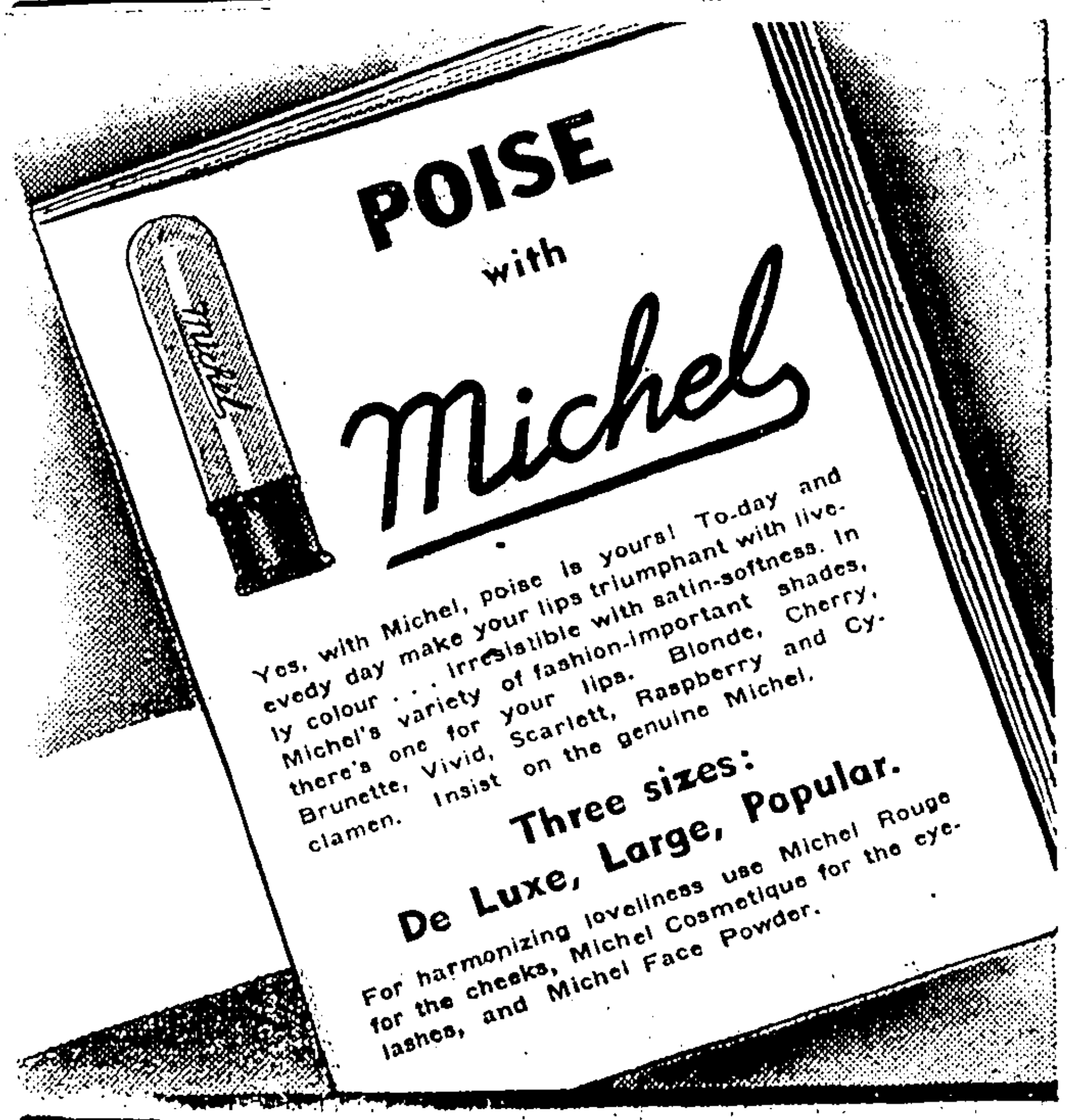


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2APB4

pan. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) for 30-40 minutes.
Mincement for Filling:
Heat 1 1/2 cups mincemeat until the suet or fat has melted.
To serve:—Cut spice cake into approximately nine pieces. Split each piece and fill centre with one spoonful hot mincemeat. Replace the top half of cake and serve foamy sauce over the top.

Foamy Sauce:

1 egg, separated
3/4 cup powdered sugar
1/2 cup whipping cream
1 td spoon lemon juice
Beat the egg white until stiff, then beat in the sugar gradually. Add the egg yolk and continue beating. Fold in the whipped cream at the last and then add the lemon juice.



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Yawata Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.
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SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Hilo &

San Francisco.

Heiyo Maru Sunday, 2nd Feb.
(starts from Kobe)

NEW YORK via Japan & Panama

*Nozima Maru Friday, 31st Jan.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila

Suwa Maru Wednesday, 29th Jan.
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo

Haruna Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.
*Toyama Maru Tuesday, 11th Feb.

RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore

*Toba Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.
*Turuga Maru Friday, 7th Feb.

KOBE & YOKOHAMA

Kamo Maru Thursday, 23rd Jan.
Yawata Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.
Asama Maru Tuesday, 11th Feb.

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CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
On Tuesday, the 28th January, the
General Post Office and Kowloon Cen-
tral Post Office will be open from 8
a.m. to noon. Sheungwan Branch Post
Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 10
a.m. and the other Branch Post Offices
will be entirely closed.

There will be one collection from the
pillar-boxes as on Sundays and one
delivery of registered and ordinary
correspondence at 11 a.m. on Tuesday,
28th January.

There will also be one delivery of
ordinary correspondence at 11 a.m. on
28th January from the Branch Post
Offices at Stanley, Taipo and Un Long.
The Money Order Office will be en-
tirely closed during the holidays.

Small Packet Post to all countries is
suspended.

INWARD MAILS

TUESDAY

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THURSDAY

Landakan
Canton

FRIDAY

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24th January.

FOR DATE & TIME

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Reg. 9.45 a.m.
Ord. 10.30 a.m.

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Manila, Batavia and Sou-
rabaya 8.30 a.m.
Manila, Australia and New Zealand via
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G.P.O. & K.P.O.

Reg. 2.45 p.m.
Ord. 3.30 p.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East
and South Africa 3.30 p.m.
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Par. (29) 5.00 p.m.
Reg. (30) 9.45 a.m.
Ord. 10.30 a.m.
Formosa 3.30 p.m.
Canton 7.00 p.m.

* Superscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Interces-
sion.

12.30 p.m.—A Bach Programme.

1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and
Weather Report.

1.03 p.m.—Magyarí Imri and His
Orchestra.

1.13 p.m.—Popular Ballads.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter and Rugby Press.
Weather Forecast and Announce-
ments.

1.45 p.m.—Dance Music by Roy Fox
and His Orchestra.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Tchaikowsky—Aurora's Wed-
ding—Ballet Music.

Overture and Polonaise—Adagio and
Variations—Bluebird—The Three
Ivans and Adagio—Pas de Quatre
and Mazurka—London Philhar-
monic Orchestra cond. by Eftem
Kurtz.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of
the Hour.

7.30 p.m.—Portuguese Programme.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather
Report, and Announcements.

8.03 p.m.—Variety.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News
and News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "Septa
Abroad."

9.45 p.m.—Mary Kay (Contralto), Jo-
seph Hildop (Tenor) and the Pipers
of the Cameron Highlanders.

10.15 p.m.—Aldershot Tattlers, 1938.
Massey Bands of the Aldershot and
Eastern Commands.

10.35 p.m.—Light Orchestral selections.

11.00 p.m.—Close down.

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WAS EARL OF ERROLL MURDERED?

The Earl of Erroll, whose death was announced in Kenya last week, may have been murdered, it was suggested by evidence given at the inquest at Nairobi yesterday.

It was reported by the police that the Earl's death was due to an accident.

A doctor stated yesterday, however, that death was caused by a revolver shot which entered the head at the rear of the left ear.

The doctor added it was unlikely it could have been self-inflicted.

The inquest was adjourned. Reuter.

MR. T. E. JACKSON INJURED

Mr. T. E. Jackson, senior Surveyor of ships, was involved in a nasty accident yesterday afternoon when the motor-cycle on which he was travelling skidded.

The accident occurred on Castle Peak Road near the Laichikok Hospital and Mr. Jackson was heavily thrown sustaining injuries to the body. He has been admitted to the Kowloon Hospital but his condition is not serious.

LANDSLIDE VICTIMS BURIED

Members of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission in Hong Kong turned out in mass on Saturday afternoon to attend the funeral of the four victims of the landslide which occurred in Ventri's Road last Thursday morning.

The cortege left the Victoria Mortuary at 3.15 p.m. and proceeded to the Chinese Cemetery in Pokfulam when the funeral service was conducted by Pastor C. Larsen, of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

BODY LEFT IN THE STREET

The body of a Chinese, who has evidently died during the night, was found this morning on the pavement in Jordan Road outside the showrooms of the Gas Company. The only unusual feature about the discovery was the fact that with children about, the body was allowed to remain untouched for several hours. A traffic policeman on duty in the vicinity informed a questioner that he could not leave his post to make a report until 9 a.m.



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BATTING COLLAPSES AND RECOVERIES AT H.K.C.C.

Early Batsmen On Both Sides Fail Badly

Big Partnership For K.C.C.; R.H. Griffiths' Aggressive Innings

By "Adrem"

BOTH SIDES HAVING recovered from bad batting collapses, the two-day match at Chater Road between Hong Kong Cricket Club and Kowloon Cricket Club, at the close of yesterday's play, found honours evenly divided, H.K.C.C. being 28 runs behind with three wickets in hand.

On a soft, easy wicket it was expected that scoring would be high but, with few exceptions, batsmen appeared to be too prone to play carefully and in so doing get themselves out.

This was particularly noticeable when Kowloon batted. Anderson, who has rarely failed this season, was held in the slips in Baker's first over and although the subsequent batsmen appeared to have little difficulty in playing the bowling, which was admittedly steady, they were just content to do that. Result was that after 35 minutes only 13 runs were on the board and, in addition to Anderson, Hung and E. F. Fincher were both back in the pavilion.

Confident Starts

Ernie Zimmermann started off confidently enough and hit the first four of the match after 34 minutes' play but he then played back at an ordinary ball from Baker and was bowled. Archie Zimmermann fared little better, playing an atrocious shot to a short ball of Perry's and giving Baker, in the gully, an easy catch.

After 50 minutes' play, therefore, the K.C.C. score was 20 for 5.

Then ensued the brightest batting of the match. Mackay and Teddy Fincher took their courage in both hands and attacked any of the bowlers that could be attacked and these methods saved the day. Runs came freely and when lunch was taken at 1 o'clock, the partnership had added 95 runs in 59 minutes and the score was 115 for 5.

After lunch Mackay scored another two fours but hit at Perry once too often and skied to cover where Bosenquet made no mistake with the chance.

Mackay was at the wicket for 70 minutes and hit 10 fours in his 62 scored out of 112.

Fincher Out

Fincher continued to bat soundly, treating the better balls with respect but hitting anything over pitched very hard, and although he lost Francis Zimmermann and Broadbridge quickly he was given good support by Robbie Lee, who played good defensive cricket to help add 38 for the ninth wicket.

Fincher's fine innings came to an end when he was caught by Baker off Alec Pearce. His contribution had been an invaluable 78, scored out of 159 in 105 minutes and he hit a beautiful six off Owen Hughes, and seven fours.

The K.C.C. innings came to a close at 3.03, when Lloyd was clean bowled by Alec Pearce.

In his first spell, Baker bowled magnificently to take the first four wickets that fell but although he continued to keep a good length after lunch he failed to meet with further success.

Perry did nothing of note in his first spell but after lunch he bowled brilliantly, flitting the ball well and studying the men he was up against. Alec Pearce handled the bowling cleverly but some of his most astute moves were ruined by bad catching. The Club catching was bad. Mackay and Fincher were missed twice while the latter was also fortunate to be given not out to an appeal for a catch behind the wicket which he himself admitted he touched.

Club Bat

The Club innings started almost as badly as had their op-

ponents'. Grose played a terrible shot at a swinger from F. R. Zimmermann and was clean bowled, while Knight, who was all at sea against Lloyd, was eventually caught and bowled. Alec Pearce was batting confidently but with the total at 30 and his own score 17, he touched one from Zimmermann which lifted and was caught at second slip by Lloyd. Ride did not stay long, Zimmermann getting a good one past his defence.

The Club total at this stage was 38 for 4. Owen Hughes, who had been missed twice early in his innings by Broadbridge and Hung, hit a couple of boundaries past the bowler and he and Griffiths carried the total to 64 before he was given out l.b.w. Lloyd.

Thereafter Griffiths took charge. After an initial period of cautiousness, he hit at everything and although he mishit on several occasions, nothing went to hand until Fincher got to a chance at long-off—only to drop it.

Zimmermann and Lloyd both bowled well but they were let down by their field, no fewer than four chances going begging.

Play will be continued at 4 o'clock to-day.

KOWLOON C. C.

D. J. N. Anderson, c Owen Hughes, b Baker	0
D. Hung, b Baker	4
E. F. Fincher, l.b.w., b Baker	6
E. Zimmermann, b Baker	4
N. A. E. Mackay, c Bosenquet, b Perry	62
A. Zimmermann, c Baker, b Owen Hughes	9
E. C. Fincher, c Baker, b T. A. Pearce	73
F. R. Zimmermann, c Owen Hughes, b Perry	10
R. T. Broadbridge, b Perry	12
R. E. Lee, not out	12
N. D. Lloyd, b T. A. Pearce	2
Extras (N.B.2)	2
Total	185

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Baker	14	5	35	4
Perry	14	2	52	3
Owen Hughes	3	0	24	1
Knight	3	0	22	0
T. A. Pearce	6	0	32	2
Ride	2	0	17	0
J. L. C. Pearce	1	0	1	0

HONG KONG C. C.

T. G. C. Knight, c and b Lloyd	8
D. C. E. Grose, b Zimmermann	0
T. A. Pearce, c Lloyd, b Zimmermann	1
H. Owen Hughes, l.b.w., b Lloyd	23
L. T. Ride, b Zimmermann	2
R. H. Griffiths, not out	22
A. E. Perry, b Zimmermann	10
J. L. C. Pearce, b Zimmermann	11
D. I. Bosenquet, not out	9
Extras (B.9)	9
Total (for 7 wks.)	157

D. O. Parsons and F. Baker to bat.

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
F. R. Zimmermann	15	0	64	5
Lloyd	15	3	40	2
Lee	3	0	16	0
Anderson	3	0	19	0

In a cricket match played in Manila recently between the Veterans and Youngsters, G. A. Stewart, former Hong Kong resident, made 36, the highest score of the match, which was drawn.

DRAKE'S RINK WIN ATTABOY BOWLS SHIELD

The bowls competition for the Attaboy Shield between members of the Kowloon Bowling Green Club was played yesterday and resulted in W. S. Drake's rink (R. P. Phillips, J. Hurst, J. C. Gill) winning with 35 shots up.

A. J. Hall's (four G. Elphick, A. J. Rogers, and L. Sykes) were runners-up with 18 shots up.

14 rinks participated.

BIG DEFEAT FOR Y.M.C.A.

At Pokfulam on Sunday, Hong Kong University "A" beat Y.M.C.A. by 98 runs in a friendly cricket match.

H.K.U. "A"

C. N. Matthews, not out	69
T. C. Lo, b Mitchell	23
K. S. Oh, c and b Mitchell	0
J. C. Fenton, run out	5
N. C. Sen Gupta, l.b.w., b Ingleby	0
G. Hong Choy, not out	51
Extras (B20, LB1)	21
Total (for 4 wks. dec.)	174

N. Singh, S. Amplavanar, T. T. Chinn, S. Mahmood and D. Chellian did not bat.

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Gege	7	1	34	0
Mitchell	8	0	44	2
Curtis	4	0	20	0
Ingleby	3	1	25	1
Logan	1	0	24	0

Y.M.C.A.

C. Logan, c Chellian, b Singh	16
W. H. Ingleby, c Oh, b Mahmood	3
J. Mitchell, b Singh	1
G. Davidson, run out	0
W. S. Gegg, l.b.w., b Mahmood	8
E. Curtis, b Mahmood	12
F. E. Lawrence, c Fenton, b Mahmood	0
A. Ahmad, b Singh	5
A. Sebastian, b Choy	10
H. A. Brokenshire, c Matthews, b Choy	10
H. D. Bruce, not out	0
Extras (B14, NB1)	15
Total	70

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mahmood	6	2	33	4
Singh	5	3	11	3
Amplavanar	3	2	8	0
Choy	2	3	11	2

ARMY SPORTLIGHT

By "SQUADDY"

NEXT Sunday the Combined Royal Artillery will meet the Eastern Football Club in the first round of the Senior Soccer Shield, which should be a very interesting match to watch.

Royal Artillery have a fine selection of players, including one or two Army players.

The team will be selected from the following players:—

Capt. P. J. T. Slapwith, 8th Hvy. Regt.
L/Sgt. Ronson, 8th Hvy. Regt.
L/Sgt. Craven, 5th A.A. Regt.
L/Sgt. Owens, 12th Hvy. Regt.
Bdr. Guy, 8th Hvy. Regt.
Bdr. Taylor, 8th Hvy. Regt.
Sgt. Elliott, 12th Hvy. Regt.
Bdr. Roberts, 12th Hvy. Regt.
L/Bdr. McDermott, 8th Hvy. Regt.
Gunner McCadden, 5th A.A. Regt.
L/Bdr. Cross, 12th Hvy. Regt.
L/Bdr. Purdie, 8th Hvy. Regt.
L/Bdr. Minshall, 12th Hvy. Regt.
Gunner Lawton, 5th A.A. Regt.
Gunner Hole, 8th Hvy. Regt.
Gunner Beaton, 12th Hvy. Regt.
Gunner Atkins, 12th Hvy. Regt.
Gunner Greig, 12th Hvy. Regt.
Gunner Evans, 8th Hvy. Regt.
Gunner Byres, 8th Hvy. Regt.

Middlesex Regiment are playing Sing Tao on Saturday and if they play as well as they did in their last League encounter they should be able to beat the Chinese.

Royal Scots have drawn a bye into the second round.

There are two interesting Junior Shield matches down for Sookunpoo on Saturday. Royal Engineers are playing 36th Bty., R.A. and the Signals are playing 30th Hvy. Bty., R.A.

On Sunday R.A.S.C. will play 24th Hvy. Bty., R.A. at Sookunpoo, kick-off 2.45 p.m.

* * *

TO-DAY at Sookunpoo the Army (Indian Ranks) are holding a hockey trial to select their Army hockey team for the forthcoming hockey tournaments. The following have been selected:—

Whites:—Hav. Gul Nur (Punjab), Hav. Duleep Singh (H.K.S.R.A.), Jam. Hazara Singh (H.K.S.R.A.), L/Nk. Mohd. Newaz (H.K.S.R.A.), Capt. Wood (Rajputs), Hav. Bagh Singh (K.C.M.H.), L/Nk. Mumtaz Ali (H.K.S.R.A.), Hav. Faqir Mohd (Rajputs), Hav. Amanat Ali (Rajputs), Gnr. Mohd Hussain (H.K.S.R.A.), and L/Nk. Mossan Singh (H.K.S.R.A.).
Reds:—L/Nk. Mohammad Fazal (H.K.S.R.A.), Capt. Kamta Pershad (Punjab), Naik Ajaib Hussain (Rajputs), Hav. Abdul Rahaman (H.K.S.R.A.), Naik Murad Khan (H.K.S.R.A.), Hav. Dhani Ram (Punjab), Lieut. Ross (Punjab), Hav. Akram (Punjab), Hav. Chhajja Singh (H.K.S.R.A.), L/Nk. Manna Singh (H.K.S.R.A.), and Gnr. Nur Khan (H.K.S.R.A.).

Capt. Wood of the Rajputs, who was selected to play in the Colony trial last Saturday, gave a good account of himself and is a possible for a place at centre-half in the Colony team which will play Macao.

Royal Engineers defeated the Gunboats in the Hong Kong Hockey Tournament on Sunday by seven goals to one, in a very one-sided game, while the Signals were beaten by the Punjab Regiment by four goals to two after a very hard and exciting game.

K.C.C. 2ND XI

K. M. Baxter, l.b.w., b Tropp	7
W. L. Rapley, b Denyer	21
L. R. Burch, c Shipp, b Tropp	6
S. A. Gray, l.b.w., b Denyer	2
E. Curtis, c Kehoe, b Denyer	4
R. Baldwin, c Shaw, b Denyer	8
J. Fenton, c Shaw, b Denyer	5
J. R. Luke, c Tropp, b Shipp	0
H. Brokenhire, not out	5
J. W. Bertram, c Denyer, b Holliday	0
R. Leigh, b Shipp	3
Extras (B1, LB2)	5
Totals	66

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Tropp	9	1	24	2
Megson	2	0	4	0
Denyer	6	1	25	5
Shipp	2.1	0	3	2
Holliday	2	0	7	1

HOCKEY TRIAL TEAMS

Following have been chosen to participate in the second Interport Hockey Trial, to be held to-day commencing at 10.30 a.m.:

V.M. Senwell (Club), V. Bond (Club), J. Goncalves (Recrelo), Capt. Wood (Rajput), W. A. Reed (Club), N. Whitley (Club), Lieut. J. Ross (Punjab), G. Singh (Khalaw), E. Fowler (Club), L. Ozorio (Recrelo), W. Brown (Police), Marwan Singh (Police), Parker (Police), B. I. Bickford (Club), G. Gosano (Recrelo), D. T. Smith (C.B.A.), T. Alves (Recrelo), R. Reed (Nomads), Hassan (Khalaw), R. G. K. Thompson (Club), Capt. Parash (Punjab), Man Singh (Police), R. Marques (Recrelo), U. B. Gouza (Khalaw) and A. E. P. Guest (Khalaw).



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ARMY DEFEAT CHINESE IN THRILLING GAME

Lee Ting-sang Meets With Nasty Accident

Cheung Wing-choy & Fox Outstanding

By "Referee"

IN ONE OF THE BEST representative games witnessed for a long time, Army qualified to meet Civilians in the Final of the Lai Wah Cup Competition when they defeated a strong Chinese team by 4 goals to 1 after extra time at Causeway Bay yesterday.

An unfortunate accident happened to Lee Ting-sang in the second half when he broke his arm and had to give up. This had a great disheartening effect on the Chinese side who although leading by the only goal, were unable to cope with the Army forwards.

Lee Wai-tong played at left back after Lee Ting-sang's accident and did quite well in that position clearing well and tackling accurately. During the extra time he went back to the attack after Army had obtained the lead.

Army on the whole played good football and deserved their win. From the start they had the Chinese continually on the move and their forwards were most dangerous when in possession and only the excellent goal-keeping of Cheung Wing-choy kept them from scoring sooner.

Hossack Only Absentee

Hossack was the only absentee from the Army side and his place was taken by Pearson. Army possessed two good wingers who were speedy and kept the Chinese wing halves fully occupied. Bright in the pivotal position was a great spoiler while behind him Naysmith and Fraser were stout defenders. Fraser came into prominence early in the game with his tackling while Naysmith was safe in his clearances. The two were subjected to continual pressure in the second period and both came out of the ordeal well.

Bankier justified his selection. He brought off several good saves though he was dazed early in the game as the result of a collision.

Birrell and Freshwater were hard workers. The former's hard kicking often cleared his lines while Freshwater, at left half, showed good anticipation and positioned himself well in spite of everything that Fung King-cheong tried to do to beat him.

Fox Plays Well

Fox played a good game in the leader's berth and had the distinction of scoring three of side's goal. He was always dangerous when in possession and he was given good support by Pearson and Weir.

Duffield was very speedy on the left wing and in the second half was very prominent with his dashes down the wing when he had Kwok Ying-kee beaten on numerous occasions. Owens, on the right wing, was also fast and his centring was an improvement on past games.

The Chinese missed the services of Lee Ting-sang greatly in the closing period of the game. He had been instrumental in breaking up many dangerous moves of the Army forwards. Tsang was unfortunate in mis-kicking which permitted Army to take the lead in the extra time.

Cheung Wing-choy saved the Chinese from a greater defeat. From the beginning he was called upon to give of his best and some of his saves were very good. Without Cheung, Army would have won the game without having to play extra time.

Hsu King-sing was not at his best at left half. He did not tackle well and allowed Owens too much liberty but in the second period when Lee Ting-sang left the field, he played very well and

Fung King-cheong and Cheung Yung-sum were prominent in the first half and gave Freshwater some anxious moments but the pair faded out in the second half when Cheung was slightly injured.

Lee Well Watched

Lee Wai-tong was too well watched while Hyui could not get going against the resolute attacking of the Army defence.

Hau Ching-to was often caught off-side which spoiled many scoring chances.

Army attacked from the start

when Fox and Weir went near scoring. Hau Ching-to opened the scoring when he nipped in and beat Bankier from close in.

Army equalised late in the second half through Weir and in the extra time Fox gave his side the lead from a pass from Duffield.

In the second period of the extra time Fox scored and before full time netted from a penalty.

ARMY — Bankier (R. Scots), Naysmith (R. Scots), Fraser (R. Scots), Birrell (Engineers), Bright (Midd'x), Freshwater (Midd'x), Owens (R.A.), Pearson (Midd'x), Fox (Engineers), Weir (R.A.S.C.) and Duffield (R.A.O.C.).

CHINESE — Cheung Wing-choy

(Sing Tao); Tsang Chung-wan (S. China), Lee Tin-sang (Sing Tao); Kwok Ying-kee (Sing Tao), Soong Ling-sing (Sing Tao), Hsu King-sing (Eastern), Chung Yung-sum (Eastern), Fung King-cheong (Sing Tao), V. K. Hyui (Eastern), Lee Wai-tong (S. China) (Capt.) and Hau Ching-to (Eastern).

KOTEWALL CUP GAME TO-DAY

The first game of the Kotewall Charity Cup Competition will be played this afternoon at Sookun-poo at 3.30 p.m. between Navy and South China.

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ITALY PREPARING TO ABANDON ABYSSINIA

Shifting All Stocks Of Grain Into Eritrea

GESTAPO ARRESTS IN MILAN AND TURIN

The Italian secret police and the Gestapo (the Nazi secret police) arrested between 20 and 30 people, including Italian army officers and Fascist officials, at Milan and Turin, according to the Belgrade correspondent of the New York "Times" yesterday.

Reports state that disorders in Milan and Turin have been serious and far-reaching and that other industrial cities in Italy were also affected. — Reuter.

CIANO ON ACTIVE SERVICE

The Italian Foreign Minister, Count Ciano, has taken command of a bomber squadron in the battle area, according to a Rome despatch to the German news agency yesterday. Count Ciano is a lieutenant-colonel in the air force. — Reuter.

Native Troops Deserting To British

ITALY IS PREPARING TO GIVE UP ABYSSINIA AS THE PATRIOT REVOLT IS EXPECTED TO FLARE UP INTO A GENERAL CONFLAGRATION AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE HARVEST AT THE END OF JANUARY.

This is the expectation of a member of the British military mission in Abyssinia, reported by the correspondent of the London "Daily Telegraph" yesterday.

The Italians are shifting all grain stocks from Abyssinia to Eritrea and there is a great scarcity of food in the larger Abyssinian towns.

Daily a stream of starving refugees is pouring into British missions' camps and an increasing number of Italian native troops are deserting to the British.

Last Stand In Eritrea

It is possible the Italians may soon evacuate the frontier lowlands and retire to the natural ramparts of the escarpments, but as an internal revolt may make even the uplands untenable the Italians have made plans for the almost complete evacuation of Abyssinia and are concentrating all troops for a last stand in the Eritrean hills. — Reuter.

Steady Advance Into Eritrea

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent)

British forces are steadily advancing into Eritrea and are now approaching the Italian positions at Agordat, an important town on the railway leading to the Red Sea port of Massawa.

The Agordat defences mainly consist of barbed wire fences and machine-gun posts behind stone walls or concealed among boulders dotting the plain round the town. There is no natural protection.

The British threat to Barentu, south of Agordat, is also growing. Meanwhile motorised units are harrying the tail of the Italian column retreating from Umm Haggar which was evacuated on Sunday.

1,000 Prisoners

This column is estimated at three or four battalions and is withdrawing eastwards along the Setit River.

Besides taking over 1,000 prisoners hitherto in their push into Eritrea the British forces, it is learned, have captured a certain amount of material, including a fair number of lorries and some guns.

On the Kenya front the Italians, who three or four weeks ago were at many points within the Kenya border, have now generally been forced back some distance on the other side.

It is stated that to all intents and purposes no Italians remain in Kenya territory.

South African, East African and West African troops are engaged in patrol work in this area.

British Offensives In Full Blast

The British forces are now nearly 100 miles inside Eritrea, while in Libya General Wavell's army is rapidly moving up in support of the advance forces.

Motorised infantry, reinforced by mechanised units, are now beyond Tobruk.

On four fronts the British offensive on the Italian African Empire is continuing in full blast.

A British communique issued in Cairo states that operations are progressing satisfactorily in Libya, Abyssinia, and Italian Somaliland, while the British are closing in on new Italian positions in Eritrea, where hundreds of prisoners were taken in the first week of operations. — Reuter.

PASSING OF MRS. R. M. CARROLL

Known throughout the Colony as "Granny Carroll," Mrs. Rosy Maria Carroll died peacefully at her residence No. 13, Bowen Road yesterday morning.

The late Mrs. Carroll was 79 years old and had been in the Colony for over 60 years. Funeral arrangements are not complete.

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THAILAND CABINET MEETING

The Thailand (Siam) Government held an emergency meeting to discuss its attitude towards the truce conditions proposed by Indo-China, according to Japanese reports in Tokyo. — Reuter.

GERMAN PACIFIC RAIDER SIGHTED WITH PRIZE SHIPS

(Continued from Page 1) sank three British vessels in the Pacific.

Japanese Bases?

The "Narvik," according to survivors of her victims, carried

NAVAL BILLS RUSHED THROUGH

The Senate yesterday sent to the White House for the President's signature a Bill to put 595 more midshipmen into training at the Annapolis Naval Academy.

In the cases of both this Bill and Bill for modernising the fleet the Senate acted so quickly that approval was indicated even before printed copies of the Bills were seen or the reports of the committees examining them. — Reuter.

ries twelve 4-inch and 8-inch guns, with two torpedo tubes. She also has on board two dive-bombers and three Heinkels and is capable of a speed of 22 knots.

The "Narvik" is one of the German surface raiders in the Pacific alleged to have been fitted out in a Japanese port and to be using Japanese islands in the Pacific as bases, though there has been no official confirmation of this.

Only two other raiders have been described by survivors, both of them armed with heavy calibre guns.

STOP PRESS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It was authoritatively learned in Washington yesterday that in order to help Britain the United States in effect has temporarily abandoned Mr. Cordell Hull's most favoured nation trade policy.

The policy was quietly shelved when President Roosevelt's executive order granted Canada a "general license" privilege under the export license system.

This gave Canada, and consequently the British Empire, the right to export almost any product without obtaining a special export license. No other country can do this.

Actually it represents a violation of reciprocal trade agreements with nearly 25 nations providing for no discrimination favouring a third party.

These agreements include that with Russia, which has already made informal representations.

It represents one of the most drastic steps taken to transfer economic policy to a wartime basis. Henceforth export licensing becomes a formidable horse-trading weapon, with which the United States will engage in that very sort of barter which Mr. Hull hitherto has condemned as "fundamentally unsound." — International News Service.

Aided by mobile artillery and strafing planes British troops are laying heavy siege to Agordat, key city in Italian Eritrea. Here over 1,000 Fascists have already been captured in the British blitz drive.

The British Army of the Nile is tightening the noose of steel around Derna and is thrusting spearheads towards Benghazi. — International News Service.

Ankara radio yesterday reported that Marshal Graziani, commanding Italian troops in Africa, has been dismissed, says International News.

Another daring raid by armed robbers was carried out at 1 a.m. to-day at Tai-O resulting in one man being killed and three wounded, one seriously.

Five armed men swooped down on a junk and towed it out of Tai-O harbour where they began transferring the cargo to their own boat.

A fight occurred between robbers and the junk crew.

The robbers killed one of the crew and wounded three others.

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

President Roosevelt yesterday summoned Republican and Democratic Congressional leaders, Mr. Henry Morgenthau (Secretary of Treasury) and Mr. Cordell Hull (Secretary of State) to an extraordinary White House night meeting to discuss proposals to modify the Lend Lease Bill.

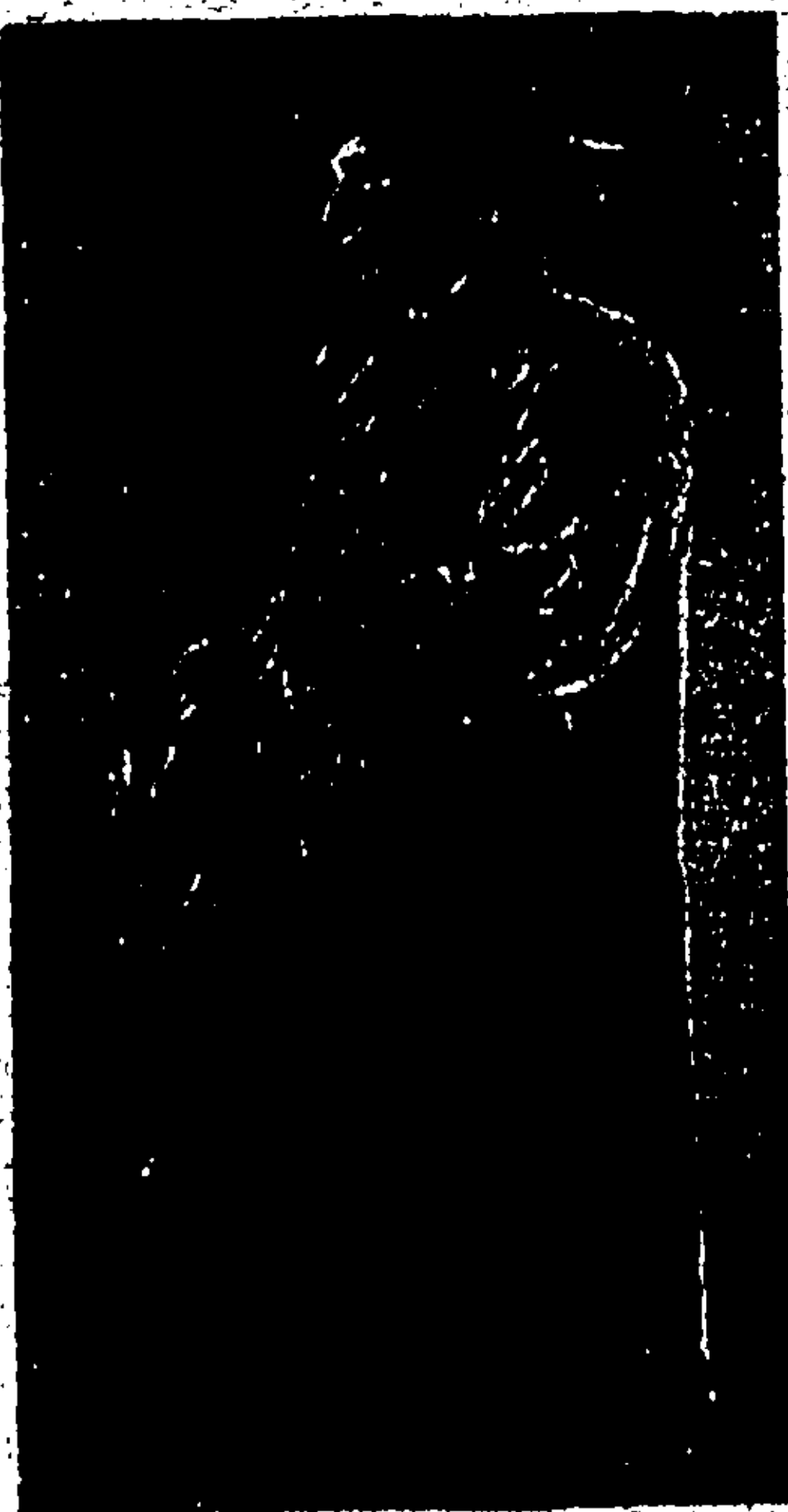
The unexpected call is interpreted as a move to reach agreement on revision of the Bill along lines calculated to lessen opposition and hasten enactment.

Administration officials say the President would make some concessions but decline to reveal their nature. One is reported to be a two-year limit on the measure. — International News Service.

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